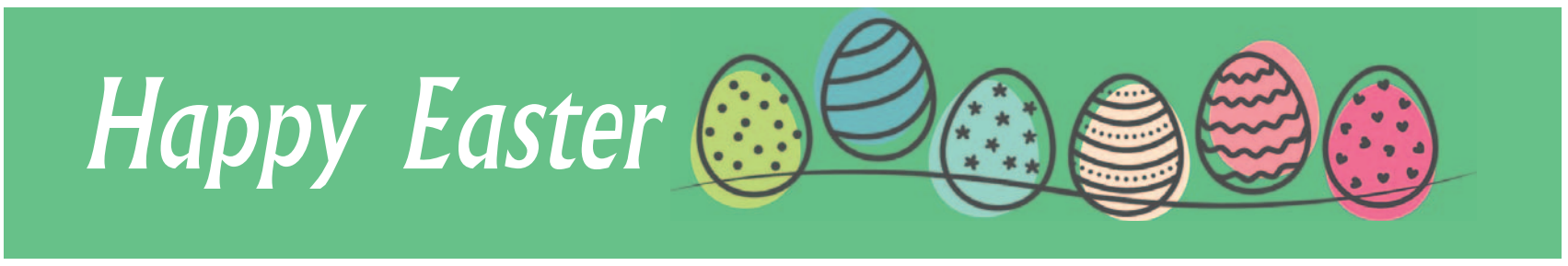

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Does governor's order go too far?

Lawmakers push back against broad executive order

By LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writer

WHITMER

PAQUETTE

Many Southwest Michigan residents are looking wistfully across the state line at Indiana, where landscapers continue to mow lawns and florist shops take orders over the phone, with customers picking them up at the curb.

Both of these activities, plus others, are temporarily banned in Michigan due to Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's stay-at-home executive order that was just extended to the end of April, to slow the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic.

State Rep. Brad Paquette, R-Niles, said he supports the governor's passion to save lives, but disagrees with how far she has gone with her executive orders.

"I have a lot of respect for her leadership and her courage. However, my job is to make sure that we're able to support her and make sure that people are able to stay safe while also continuing on in their livelihoods if they are able to do so safely," he said.

He said many Michigan residents have shared with him their stories about how their businesses are being devastated even though they could continue working while maintaining social distance.

"I've literally been on the phone two weeks straight with people who are simply losing their livelihoods and the nest eggs that they have in their business," Paquette said. "And they're watching folks in Indiana who are able to still work and folks who are working (in Michigan) on federal contracts still be able to work."

Lowe's in Benton Township was restricted last weekend by the Benton Township police for selling items out of its garden center because that is not deemed as essential. Paquette said Michigan State Police troopers were recently patrolling the Rural King parking lot in Niles, making sure customers were only allowed to buy essential materials.

He said Michigan is starting to feel like a police state.

"When our government does make these far reaching one-size-fits-all applications, it hurts a lot of people that don't need to be hurt," he said.

Paquette said it's not a case of saving lives versus staying in business. It's a case of having common sense and allowing businesses that can stay open safely do so.

New order

When Whitmer extended the stay-home order on Thursday, she also expanded it.

Under the new order, Whitmer said big box stores like

See **ORDER**, page A2

Photos by Don Campbell / HP staff

Maintenance Manager Emily Brooks prunes a bush at Arcadia Gardens in Stevensville on Wednesday. Brooks is frustrated with Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's executive order that has effectively shut down landscapers at a critical time of the year for them.

Local businesses adjust to latest executive order

Maximum occupancy, non-essential product ban among new restrictions

By TONY WITTKOWSKI
HP Staff Writer

Southwest Michigan businesses have spent the last couple of days combing through the new changes that were enacted under the governor's extended executive order.

The stay-at-home extension, announced Thursday, is making several businesses subject to additional occupancy restrictions, including the requirement to shut down non-essential areas of the store.

The majority of stores don't seem to be affected by the subtle additions, as most have already been implementing safety measures that were above and beyond the original executive order.

At Roger's Foodland in St. Joseph, the grocery store previously mandated that staff wear face masks, added sneeze guards in front of cashiers and the store closed off aisles when stockers begin refilling shelves.

Zac Bernard, store director, said they began taking extra measures because the staff didn't want to find out the hard way.

"It's kind of business as usual. Well, about as usual as the last three weeks have been," Bernard said. "We have checklists every half hour for cleaning registers, door handles and bathroom doors."

Grocery stores and other retailers that sell food, medicine and other essentials are allowed to remain open during the stay-at-home order, although they'll now be subject to additional occupancy restrictions. They are now required to shut down non-essential areas of the store like carpeting, furniture and garden centers.

Bernard said Roger's hasn't had to worry about that since they are predominantly a grocer.

See **ADJUST**, page A2

Landscaping companies across the state, including Arcadia Gardens in Stevensville, have temporarily been closed down by the governor due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Lawn care, landscaping companies left hanging due to restrictions

By TONY WITTKOWSKI
HP Staff Writer

Landscaping crews experienced one of the shortest winters in recent memory and were prepared to hit the ground running for peak season, starting around mid-March.

But then after only a week into their seasonal work period, the state issued its stay-at-home executive order in an effort to combat the COVID-19 pandemic.

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's administration classified lawn care and landscaping work as non-essential,

See **RESTRICTIONS**, page A2

Another COVID-19 death in Berrien County

Cook Plant employee tests positive

By ALEXANDRA NEWMAN
HP Staff Writer

BRIDGMAN — Another person died from COVID-19 Friday in Berrien County.

The Berrien County Health Department (BCHD) reports that it was a man over the age of 55 with several underlying medical conditions. The county now has had three men over the age of 55 die from the virus.

In addition to the death Friday, Berrien County added eight positive cases of COVID-19 cases, making its total 88 cases.

The BCHD reports that 44 of the positive cases have recovered – no increase from Thursday.

Van Buren and Cass counties each added two more cases. Van Buren has 20 cases and Cass County has 12 cases. Each both still has one death.

The state and county health departments update the number of positive COVID-19 cases at 3 p.m. each day. For state numbers, visit www.michigan.gov/coronavirus.

Local numbers and information can be found at www.bchdmi.org, and at www.vbcassdhd.org/covid-19.

Cook employee

Cook Nuclear Plant officials confirmed Friday that one of the plant's employees tested positive for COVID-19 this week.

Plant spokesman Bill Downey said the employee is quarantined at home with mild symptoms and only had close contact with one other Cook employee.

"We are coordinating with local and national health officials and have provided specific guidance to the individual who had close contact with the infected employee, and any others within that individual's work group," Downey said. "Our employees' and their coworkers' safety and health is our top priority as we continue to serve our customers during this outbreak."

He said the plant has taken all necessary steps in accordance with CDC guidelines, including the cleaning and disinfecting of any affected workspaces.

"Like Cook Plant, Indiana Michigan Power and American Electric Power continue to monitor the spread of COVID-19 and are taking ongoing actions such as cleaning work areas, working with smaller crews, having employees work from home when possible, restricting business travel and meetings, and closing our facilities to all visitors (except necessary deliveries)," Downey said.

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Mich. reports 205 new virus deaths, highest daily total

By ED WHITE and DAVID EGGERT
Associated Press

DETROIT — Michigan officials reported 205 new deaths from COVID-19 on Friday, the state's highest daily toll since the pandemic began, and a temporary hospital for patients opened in Detroit to ease the pressure on health care providers.

Not all of those deaths occurred in the last 24 hours. Some could have occurred days or weeks earlier but they were added to the official count after death certificates were matched to a registry of confirmed coronavirus cases, the state health department said.

The latest

Hospitals in hard-hit southeastern Michigan have been expressing optimism about their caseloads, despite the spike in deaths. Henry Ford Health System and Beaumont Health said the number of coronavirus patients had dropped from earlier in the week.

Michigan Medicine at the University of Michigan did not open a temporary hospital Friday as planned.

See **COVID**, page A2

The Newspaper for Southwest Michigan

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Features	A3	Obituaries	A5	Outdoors	B4	Weather	A6

Sunday Weather
High 52 Low 41

6 50645 49086 7

Carlos Osorio

Detroit Police Capt. Jevon Johnson, left, talks with Lt. Pride Henry outside the TCF Center on Friday in Detroit.

COVID

From page A1

"It appears from current COVID-19 cases and modeling that the curve is significantly flattening," university spokeswoman Mary Masson said. "We are in communication with state officials to coordinate and determine future need."

Gov. Gretchen Whitmer has extended her stay-at-home order for Michigan residents through April 30.

"We are not out of the woods yet," Whitmer said on Twitter as she reported the new deaths, which raised Michigan's total to 1,281. The number of confirmed cases increased by 1,279, or 6 percent, to 22,783 – the third most in the U.S.

At least 25 patients were expected to arrive at Detroit's convention hall, TCF Center, from area hospitals. It's equipped with 1,000 beds for people recovering from COVID-19, although that many beds might not be needed.

Nursing home deaths

In suburban Detroit, seven people at a nursing home have died from COVID-19 complications. Rivergate Terrace in Riverview said 21 residents tested positive and 11 remain in hospitals. Fifteen staff members also tested positive and were recovering at home.

Roughly 8 percent of the county's coronavirus cases, excluding Detroit, have been at nursing homes, said Bill Nowling, a spokesman for the Wayne County executive.

Separately, Mayor Mike Duggan reported seven more deaths among Detroit nursing home residents, raising the city's total to at least 18.

"Our most vulnerable citizens are dying in a helpless manner. ... We will test 1,200 people in the next seven or eight days in nursing homes and homeless shelters," Duggan said.

Hazard pay

Detroit will start paying the equivalent of $800 per month as a hazard bonus to city employees who work face-to-face with the public, including police officers, firefighters and bus drivers, the mayor said.

About 27 percent of Michigan's coronavirus cases and 25 percent of deaths were Detroit residents.

LOTTERIES

Friday drawings

Michigan
Poker Lotto
KH-JS-AS-4C-7C
Midday Daily 3
4-4-6
Midday Daily 4
0-4-4-9
Daily 3
3-2-6
Daily 4
2-7-5-7
Fantasy 5
04-13-14-31-34
Keno
01-04-05-06-14-18-27-28-30-34-40-46-47-55-62-63-64-65-66-69-75-79
Mega Millions jackpot
$136 million
Powerball jackpot
$195 million

Thursday drawings

Indiana
Cash 5
01-02-05-29-33
Estimated jackpot
$155,000
Cash4Life
05-10-11-52-59, Cash Ball: 1
Quick Draw Midday
01-05-06-13-15-30-38-40-45-46-47-55-62-67-68-69-72-76-77-78, BE: 72
Daily Three-Midday
0-1-7, SB: 6
Daily Three-Evening
5-2-0, SB: 6
Daily Four-Midday
1-4-9-5, SB: 6
Daily Four-Evening
0-4-9-5, SB: 6
Quick Draw Evening
06-07-12-17-19-23-26-34-41-42-43-46-50-56-64-65-66-71-72-74, BE: 7

Illinois
Lotto
02-05-10-12-38-51, Extra Shot: 25
Estimated jackpot
$8 million
LuckyDay Lotto Midday
01-02-28-32-39
Estimated jackpot
$1.1 million
Pick Three-Midday
7-4-7, Fireball: 7
Pick Three-Evening
8-9-9, Fireball: 0
Pick Four-Midday
2-7-7-4, Fireball: 1
Pick Four-Evening
1-7-6-3, Fireball: 3
Lucky Day Lotto
02-07-09-24-41

– The Associated Press

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ORDER

From page A1

Walmart will have to close portions of the store that are dedicated to carpeting, paint and furniture, because those items are not essential.

"If you're not buying food or medicine or other essential items, you should not be going to the store," Whitmer said.

Indiana Gov. Eric Holcomb has also issued a stay-at-home order, which is set to expire April 20.

His press secretary, Rachel Hoffmeyer, confirmed that under his order, stores like Lowe's are still allowed to sell garden supplies, and big box stores aren't being required to rope off portions of the store not considered essential.

In addition, she confirmed that contractors are allowed to work on private homes, golf courses are open and nonessential businesses like greenhouses can take orders over the phone or online and deliver them to the customer at the curb, like restaurants are allowed to do.

Holcomb added that while businesses are allowed to operate, they must do so safely by complying with social distance regulations and by regularly sanitizing commonly touched areas.

The updated March 28 federal guidelines state that essential workers include "workers such as plumbers, electricians, exterminators, builders, contractors, HVAC Technicians, landscapers, and other service providers who provide services that are necessary to maintaining the safety, sanitation, and essential operation of residences, businesses and buildings such as hospitals, senior living facilities, any temporary construction required to support COVID-19 response."

Whitmer's new stay-at-home executive order states that its list of essential workers is still based on the original March 19 federal guidelines.

"This order does not adopt any subsequent guidance document released by this same agency," the order states.

Wendzel, LaSata weigh in

State Rep. Pauline Wendzel, R-Coloma, said in a news release that it is wrong for Whitmer to ignore the updated federal guidelines.

"The fact that the governor refuses to adapt to expert recommendations from the Department of Homeland Security as so many of her colleagues have done is troubling and isn't supported by data," Wendzel said. "This additional clamp-down is the last thing we need right now and hurts not only business owners, but every single one of our friends and neighbors."

She said that Michigan owners who can run their businesses while maintaining social distancing guidelines should be allowed to do so.

State Sen. Kim LaSata, R-Bainbridge Township, echoed Paquette's and Wendzel's opposition to Michigan's essential worker order being so limited.

"I have heard from numerous businesses from our district lamenting the fact that, while under similar circumstances, their competitors in Indiana are open for business while they are ordered closed," said LaSata in a news release. "Our business owners and job providers are more than capable of operating safely – they have so far trusted the government during this crisis and it is time the government trusted them."

LASATA

WENDZEL

LaSata said that the state senate recently announced a bipartisan "Safe Behavior for Safe Workplaces" work group to developing a plan to reopen the economy, with the deadline of April 17 to deliver its recommendations to Whitmer.

"I am confident that the new Safe Behavior for Safe Workplaces work group will develop sound recommendations that can help get our state back to work quickly and safely," LaSata said. "I will continue to share feedback from my discussions with Southwest Michigan businesses with the workgroup as they conduct their thorough and expeditious work."

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RESTRICTIONS

From page A1

meaning the companies are not allowed to operate while the order is in effect.

Now landscapers and supporters are urging legislators and the governor to reverse the decision, in an effort to get back to work.

Anna Brooks, who runs Arcadia Gardens in Stevensville along with her husband, said the timing couldn't have been worse.

"Our golden rule of starting back is on or around March 15," Brooks said. "A good number of (landscaping companies) are coming off a dry snow season with an early spring. We all are coming off of it short on funds."

Arcadia Gardens doesn't handle lawn mowing or snow plowing. The company focuses on design builds for commercial properties and residential households.

Their entire workforce has been laid off since mid-December, a period in which a lot of the Arcadia's design work is done. When spring arrives, crew members come back and complete lawn maintenance.

Brooks said several frustrated landscapers now out of work say they are certain they could do their jobs outdoors while still following social distance guidelines.

"What is frustrating is we are very concerned about the health of our community, our clients and our employees," she said. "That being said, we are relatively low risk. We are able to send out crews one to two people per vehicle."

In an effort to corral support, Brooks created a private Facebook group for local lawn care and landscapers to talk about what's happening.

"We had a week and a half across the state where we worked," Brooks said. "It was a grey area until (Whitmer) came out and named us as non-essential."

Other than her belief that landscapers can properly distance themselves while on the job, Brooks said getting back to work is a time-sensitive matter.

"This is an early spring. We have lawns that need to be mowed and fertilized. Pest control needs to go down," Brooks said. "The lawn care crews are scrambling because there is fertilizer that needs to go down in the next few weeks. We have to get the leaves up because they are a fire hazards and a breeding ground for mosquitos."

Little or no business

A good portion of landscaping companies plow snow over the winter months in order to keep a revenue stream going during the offseason.

Travis Hanko, owner in Precision Cutz in Coloma, said plowing snow makes up about 20 percent of his company revenue.

With so little snow this winter, Hanko was prepared for spring. When the executive order was first handed down, Hanko said he and his crew continued to work.

Two weeks ago he was shut down by police while on a job.

"We had been working for a couple weeks, doing cleanups," Hanko said. "When we were stopped, we were fertilizing at the time. There were only two of us out. The cop was very nice about it and reminded us of (the executive order)."

Arcadia Gardens isn't out on jobs, but workers are doing any kind of upkeep they are legally allowed to do under the executive order.

"We are permitted under guidance from the Michigan Nursery Landscaping Association to have essential employees who do the bare minimum," Brooks said. "That means paying the bills and keeping the business afloat. We have a skeleton office crew."

The onsite nursery requires upkeep and Arcadia is still permitted to keep its contract with the Berrien County Drain Commission.

"We had to lay off all of our employees, but we did need to bring back three employees to fulfill the contract," Brooks said. That's a stark contrast to the usual 33-member workforce at Arcadia.

Holding out hope

Michael Villwock has been frequently communicating with several state lawmakers in search of some kind of help.

As the owner of Villwock's Outdoor Living, he runs a gardening center and retail outfit in Berrien Springs. He said he reaches out to his local legislators on a daily basis.

"A lot of lawmakers have probably considered blocking me," Villwock joked.

Villwock said he's confused by the state restricting him from working outside, while at the same time the governor is encouraging people to go outside for recreational activities.

"This is the time of year where we get ramped up," he said. "There's little to no business right now. We are able to manage Rite Aid and a few grocery stores that are deemed essential under contract."

Villwock employs about 50 workers during the heart of the season. They only brought back a dozen of them when the coronavirus hit.

That number has since dwindled to two or three.

"I guess the silver lining is it brings you back to reality. We fought hard as business owners to build this. We've poured our lives into this. It reconnects you to the fact that this isn't an easy thing," Villwock said. "As far as the light at the end of the tunnel, I'm optimistic that common sense will come to those who are making the decisions."

Arcadia Gardens' clients have been extremely supportive. Brooks said a few have signed petitions to allow lawn maintenance to resume across Michigan.

Brooks is frustrated that some adjacent states are allowing lawn care, despite a similar statewide stay-home order. "The overall consensus was landscaping and lawn care is essential," she said. "It's even determined so on a national level, with almost every state allowing it. Even the CDC is in support."

Now it appears landscapers and other lawn care workers in Michigan will have to wait at least another three weeks, since the executive order was just extended through the end of April.

"The hardest part is that for 30 years, Arcadia Gardens has been hardwired to be out working 10- to 12-hour days this time of year," Brooks said. "Instead, we are sitting here watching things grow and there's nothing we can do about it."

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ADJUST

From page A1

He said the biggest problem their store has dealt with has been the limited supply for some items.

"We're ordering big loads and getting little loads instead," Bernard said. "We're rationed groceries. It's been like that for the last three weeks."

Another change under the order, which many stores in the area have done, has been to establish markings to ensure there is 6 feet between customers waiting in line.

Larger stores are now expected to limit the number of people in the store at one time to no more than four customers for every 1,000 square feet of customer floor space.

The new restriction is different for smaller stores, which are expected to limit capacity to 25 percent of the total occupancy limits – including employees – under fire codes.

When it comes to customer counts, Bernard said Roger's is well within its limitations.

"If you do the math, a lot of those stores are 100,000 square feet. That's 400 people in the store at once, which is still a lot," Bernard said. "We go by our total day customer count and then divide it out-right. Two weeks ago, when it was a madhouse, it would have been different. Right now, we're not even close to the governor's limits."

Garren Dent, manager at Village Do It Best Hardware in Berrien Springs, said the staff went over the newest iteration of the state's restrictions Thursday night, and then again Friday morning.

Dent said if essential businesses that remained open have square footage under the 50,000-foot bar, then there won't be too many changes.

"It doesn't appear to have affected us as much," he said. "We're still able to be here and we're following some of the other rules just for our protection, as well as the customers."

The hardware store has adopted several customs that many grocery stores implemented in March, which was install a plexiglass barrier between customers and the cashier. They've also added 6-foot intervals for those looking to keep a safe distance while in the store.

As far as what is restricted for hardware stores to sell, Dent said they don't have everything in certain sections that are not considered nonessential.

"Bigger stores have cut off certain departments. You can do that with lawn and garden sections," Dent said. "There's quite a bit of overlap. We're not telling people what they can and cannot buy. We haven't roped anything off."

On Friday morning, Dent said they got a visit from the fire chief who had a brief discussion on the new state sanctions.

Dent said the hardware store is 15,000 square feet and has a 500-person max occupancy. Under the new limitations, the store could have up to 125 people inside – which Dent said is unlikely to happen.

The governor has also encouraged curbside pickups, which Village Do It Best Hardware is offering as an option.

"We've done it before, but hardly anyone asks us," Dent said. "If you know what you want, we'll take payment over the phone and have everything ready. We considered hiring someone full time to take those orders."

Arthur Havlicek, president of the Southwest Michigan Regional Chamber, said he has some concerns with the extended order.

Michigan is one of at least 42 states that have a stay-at-home order in place for some or all of the state.

"Michigan needs to get back to work as soon as possible. No one is denying the need for safe social distance practices," Havlicek said. "A lot of our businesses locally, we're already doing these safe practices anyway. Tightening restrictions is going to make things harder to breathe."

Havlicek's biggest qualm is with the "ambiguity in the first order." He said the expanded version was not the right move either.

One thing Havlicek would like to see is moving away from a "one-size-fits-all approach" from the state.

"Our chamber has the ability to advocate our legislative and elected leaders and we plan to ramp up our advocacy efforts here very quickly," he said. "I understand the need for the stay-at-home guidelines. But I think we need to be more methodical on the restrictions we're placing on people's livelihoods."

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PRIME TIME TV

SATURDAY EVENING APR. 11

	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
ABC 7 13 41 57	Wheel of Fortune	Shark Tank CC (DVS)		American Idol The contestants showcase their artistry. CC			
CBS 2 3 22	Paid Program	Bull Bull must help Marissa's husband.		48 Hours (N) CC		48 Hours (N) CC	
NBC 5 8 16	Ac. Hollywood	Dateline NBC CC				Saturday Night Live (N) CC	
FOX 17 222 28 32	Modern Family	9-1-1 Holiday-themed incidents.		Gordon Ramsay's 24 Hours to Hell		Fox 17 News at 10:00PM (N) CC	
PBS 34	Lawrence Welk	To Be Announced		As Time Goes By	As Time Goes By	Keep-Appear	Keep-Appear
CW 25	Big Bang Theory	Mike & Molly	Mike & Molly	Seinfeld CC	Seinfeld CC	News	Cops CC
MNT 50	Graham Bensinger	Dateline "Return to Manitowoc County"		Dateline A Texas man shoots his wife.		Dateline "The Knock at the Door" CC	
WCIU 26	2 Broke Girls	Bob's Burgers	Bob's Burgers	Family Guy	Family Guy	Family Guy	Bob's Burgers
WHME 46	:00 Heartland	Heartland "All Hearts Lead Home"		Murdoch Mysteries "Great Balls of Fire"		Murdoch Mysteries "A Study in Pink"	
WGN 9	Friends CC	Friends CC	Friends CC	Friends CC	Friends CC	WGN Weekend News at Nine (N)	
A&E	To Be Announced	:07 Live PD: Rewind (N) CC		To Be Announced			
AMC	5:30 ★★★ The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King ('03) Elijah Wood, Ian McKellen. CC					Line of Duty (N) CC	
Animal	The Zoo	Bronx Tales		The Zoo (N)		Saved By The Barn	
BET	★★★ Coming to America ('88) Eddie Murphy. CC						Harlem
Big Ten	Ohio	The Game		BTN Basketball in 60		Big Ten Elite CC	
Bravo	:00 Very Cavallari	Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows	Chrisley Knows
Cartoon	Thun	Dragon	Dragon	American	American	Burgers	Fam. Guy
Cinemax	:00 Strike Back	7:50 ★★ Running Scared ('06) Paul Walker. A gun winds up in the wrong hands.				9:55 ★★★ Déjà Vu ('06) CC	
CMT	:00 ★★★ Indiana Jones and the Last Crusade					Indiana Jones	
CNBC	Boss	Undercover Boss		Undercover Boss		Undercover Boss	
CNN	News	CNN Newsroom		CNN Special Report		CNN Special Report	
Comedy	6:30 Mr. Deeds	★★★ Wedding Crashers ('05) Owen Wilson.					
Discovery	Deadliest Catch:	Deadliest Catch (N) CC		Deadliest Catch: Legacy of Phil Harris Josh embarks on a journey. (N) CC			
Disney	Raven	Big City	Big City	Big City	Big City	Owl Hse.	Owl Hse.
DIY	Insane	Maine Cabin Masters		Maine Cabin Masters		Maine Cabin Masters	
E!	:00 ★★ Couples Retreat ('09) CC				★★ Couples Retreat ('09)		
ESPN	ESPN	NBA 2K Players Tournament (N) (L)					
ESPN2	LLWS		Little League World Series (N)				UFC
ESPNC	Football	College Football From Oct. 1, 2011.				College Football	
Food	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners	Diners
Fox News	Life	Watters' World (N)		Justice With Jeanine		Greg Gutfeld	
Fox Sports	Tigers	Detroit Tigers Classics (N)					
Freefrm	The Incredibles	:10 ★★★ Spider-Man: Homecoming ('17) Tom Holland. Peter Parker harnesses his new powers to battle the Vulture. CC					
FX	:00 ★★ Peter Rabbit ('18) Voices of James Corden. CC			★★ Peter Rabbit ('18) Voices of James Corden, Fayssal Bazzi. CC			
Golf	To Be Announced						
Hallmark	:00 You're Bacon Me Crazy ('20) Natalie Hall. CC			Fashionably Yours ('20) Kendrick Sampson, Kat Graham. (P). CC			
HBO	Phoenix	★★ It: Chapter Two ('19) Jessica Chastain. (P). Grown-up members of the Losers' Club confront an evil clown.					
History	Aliens	Ancient Aliens CC		Ancient Aliens (N)		:03 The UnXplained	
HGTV	Property	Love It or List It		Love It or List It		Nate and Jeremiah	
Learning	Say Yes	Say Yes to the Dress: Atlanta (N)				Say Yes: ATL	
Lifetime	Some Child	The Clark Sisters: First Ladies of Gospel ('19) Aunjanue Ellis, Christina Bell. (P). CC					Twist of Faith ('13)
MSNBC	MSNBC	All In With		Rachel Maddow		The Last Word	
MTV	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.	Ridic.
NBCSCH	Insd.	Chicago Blackhawks Classics					White
NFL	Football	A Football Life		A Football Life		A Football Life	
Nick	Danger	Danger	All That	Sponge.	Sponge.	Friends	Friends
NGEO	Drugs,	Drugs, Inc. "Hallucinogens" CC				:03 Drugs, Inc. CC	
Oxygen	DNA of Murder	To Be Announced		To Be Announced		Dahmer: A Serial Killer Speaks	
Parmt	The Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn Part 2				Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn		
Showtime	:00 ★★★★ Platoon ('86, War) Tom Berenger. CC			Semper Fi ('19) Jai Courtney, Nat Wolff. (P). CC			:45 Rambo
Starz	:19 ★★ Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian			:06 ★ Miss Bala ('19, Action) Gina Rodriguez, Ismael Cruz Córdova. CC			
STZENC	The Nutty Professor	:11 ★★ Nutty Professor II: The Klumps ('00, Comedy) Eddie Murphy. CC				Spartacus: War of the Damned CC	
SyFy	★★ The Fast and the Furious: Tokyo Drift ('06) Lucas Black. CC (DVS)				:45 ★★ Fast & Furious ('09) Vin Diesel. CC (DVS)		
TBS	Justice League	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Big Bang Theory	Full Frontal	The Last O.G.
TCM	The Wizard of Oz	★★★ What's Up, Doc? ('72) Barbra Streisand, Ryan O'Neal. CC				★★★ Paper Moon ('73) CC	
TMC	:15 ★★ Mile 22 ('18, Action) Mark Wahlberg. CC			★★★ Scream ('96, Horror) Neve Campbell, David Arquette. CC			
TNT	Godzilla	★★ San Andreas ('15, Action) Dwayne Johnson.					Andreas
Travel	Haunted	Woo.- Haunted		Woo.- Haunted		The Alaska Triangle	
TV Land	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men	Two Men
USA	:10 ★★★ Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire ('05, Fantasy) Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint, Emma Watson. CC (DVS)						Harry-Phoenix
VH1	★★ Bad Boys II ('03, Action) Martin Lawrence, Will Smith. CC						
WGN-A	:00 Blue Bloods	Blue Bloods "New Rules" CC		Blue Bloods "The Art of War" CC		Blue Bloods "Rush to Judgment"	

Beau feels like odd man out with girlfriend's family

DEAR ABBY: I have been divorced for three years. I have been dating a woman, "Stephanie," whom I love and believe can be my next wife. We talk about marriage and have been very good for each other.

Jeanne Phillips
Dear Abby

We each are blessed with three grown children, and we love our families immensely. The difference is, Stephanie socializes only with her family and has few friends who aren't related to her. I, on the other hand, have a wealth of friends and like to do a lot with them – dinner parties, sporting events, concerts, traveling, etc. My friends are great people, and she agrees with me on that, but when we make plans with them, she says she feels like an outsider and prefers to be with her family.

Currently, Stephanie sees her daughter at least three times a week and her oldest son twice a week. In addition, her ex-husband and his wife host family events almost every other weekend – birthdays, holidays, game nights, etc., and she never wants to miss them. They are so close that there are no secrets and lots of "inside jokes." I feel very much like an outsider at times.

I love her family, and they have welcomed me with open arms, but I can't seem to get used to this much "togetherness." Once my kids were grown and out of the house, I wanted to enjoy my life while they pursued their own fun. I'm at the point that I'm tired of her family, especially since her ex always seems to be the organizer of these get-togethers.

I don't want to hurt her or her family's feelings, but I would prefer more private time traveling or visiting with my friends and family, and we are not finding a good balance. They all attend the same church every week and even sit together as if they were still one big, happy family, even though it has been 20 years since their divorce. She tells me that I am No. 1 in her life, but her actions say otherwise. What do I do? – Different In Missouri

DEAR DIFFERENT: I suggest you stop listening to what Stephanie says and concentrate more on what you see she's doing, then act accordingly.

DEAR ABBY: I have a good friend who, every time I invite her and her husband over for dinner, always assumes their 20-year-old daughter can have a plate as well. They make her a plate before they serve themselves and take it to her.

I guess I don't mind, but I wish they would ask before assuming it's OK. Most of the time I make enough food so I have leftovers for my boyfriend to take for lunch the following day. Is she being rude? Or am I just being a not-so-nice friend? – No Leftovers

DEAR NO LEFTOVERS: What your friend is doing is rude. But don't blame her for it. This is your fault for not speaking up when this first started happening and explaining that the leftovers are intended for your boyfriend's lunch the next day, which is why you would appreciate her not taking them. A way to avoid this in the future might be to plate the food yourself rather than let your guests do it, and immediately refrigerate whatever is left. Out of sight, out of reach!

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

I want to adopt, but boyfriend wants our own kids

Adapted from an online discussion.

HI, CAROLYN: Early on in dating, I let my boyfriend know that I preferred adoption to giving birth. I have several reservations about health and body image throughout and after pregnancy, and I'd prefer to adopt a child that exists already.

Carolyn Hax

My boyfriend came to realize he wants biological children, with some anecdotal bias against adopting. We've been concerned about our future together ever since, given that we would part ways if we don't come to at least a compromise. Out of being child-free, surrogacy, pregnancy and adoption, none of these are mutually satisfactory.

I was wondering if you have any suggestions to help us gain a better understanding of our options toward eventually making a decision. – Doomed?

DOOMED: I struggle with this, too.

On the one hand, each of you is entitled to choose a path that feels right, and to make decisions about your future accordingly. Family planning is part of who we are.

On the other hand, choice does not correlate one-to-one with the outcome of any life plan, particularly where family-building is involved. Stuff happens – and, sometimes, stuff doesn't.

So where I've landed is somewhere in between, where you talk about your general vision of what you hope for and use that as a way to get to know and also decide on someone as a possible life partner – but also recognize that the only thing for sure is you. You have you, and the rest is contingent.

One step out from that, what you have is you and your partner, for as long as the partnership lasts. Anything else is one or two or multiple rings out from this center.

That means that you should choose a partner only if you would still choose that person if kids (or whatever other life vision) didn't happen, for whatever reason.

If you would choose this person with or without the possibility of a family, *then* you get into how you want a potential family to be built.

Each of you has to do this. If you wouldn't marry each other knowing you would have no children together, then the rest seems academic to me.

RE: CHILDREN: I think there's a red flag here. If, among the options – no kids, surrogacy, adoption and pregnancy, and he wants biological kids and she doesn't want to give birth – there is zero common ground, then I think it's pretty clear his expectation is that he gets her pregnant. Period. That's a problem. – Flag

FLAG: If it is, then it is, thanks for pointing this out.

RE: PLANNING CHILDREN: For the woman who didn't want to give birth, I say great for knowing who you are and what you are capable of handling. However, if you struggle with body image issues, you should consider how this will influence you as a parent. If you haven't already done so, please seek counseling before you adopt. Your issues can become your child's issues unless you get a handle on them. Good luck. – Anonymous

ANONYMOUS: Kindly put, thank you.

Email Carolyn at tellme@washpost.com, follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/carolyn.hax or chat with her online at noon each Friday at www.washingtonpost.com.

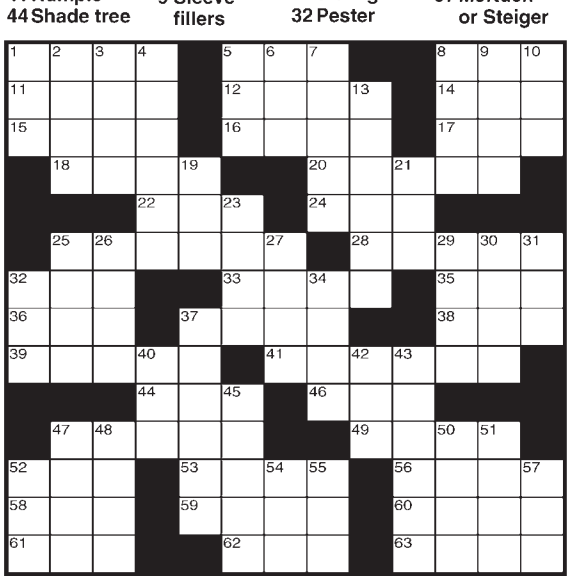
CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 On deck
5 Caen water
8 Chatter
11 Ms. Gluck
12 Apartment mgr.
14 Geologic division
15 Well, to Yves
16 Distort
17 Ms. Tan
18 Raggedy doll
20 Approaches
22 Hoop site
24 N.J. neighbor
25 Mooched
28 Greenish-blues
32 Name, to Pierre
33 Spasms
35 Sundial numeral
36 Peak for Heidi
37 Hull bottom
38 Jr. naval officer
39 Painter's undercoat
41 Rumple
44 Shade tree
46 Frat letter
47 Panache
49 Pal of Ollie
52 Pull an oar
53 Cathedral part
56 Sultan's kin
58 Yes, in Kyoto
59 Drinks slowly
60 Prefix for second
61 Decide on
62 Pouch
63 Cats do it

DOWN
1 Collar
2 He directed Marlon
3 Comic book heroes (hyph.)
4 Two-person bike
5 Superman's emblem
6 Bering Sea bird
7 Overturn
8 Summer to summer
9 Sleeve fillers
10 Scarpetta or Starr
13 Bird sounds
19 Edible tuber
21 Frothy brew
23 Nerve network
25 Tree trunk
26 Game officials
27 Eat "lite" foods
29 Figure skating jump
30 Queue
31 Bro's sibling
32 Pester
34 Hoof-on-pavement sound
37 Eucalyptus diners
40 Tofu base
42 TV band
43 Tornado warnings
45 French Legion headgear
47 Lather
48 Kid
50 Asian nanny
51 Muse count
52 Greek P
54 Health club
55 Top-left PC key
57 McKuen or Steiger

Answer to Previous Puzzle

B	A	T		L	B	S				L	C	D
A	N	A		O	R	C	A		B	E	L	A
M	T	N		T	E	A	R		O	V	E	N
	S	K	A	T	E	R	S		W	E	A	K
			N	O	D		O	F	T	E	N	
L	U	C	Y		E	N	N	U	I			
E	P	A		S	R	A		Z	E	B	R	A
O	C	T	E	T		P	A	Z		Y	I	P
			V	I	S	A	S		P	E	A	R
	E	M	E	R	Y		K	F	C			
A	V	O	N		R	E	A	L	T	O	R	
P	O	N	E		U	L	N	A		T	A	D
E	K	E	D		P	A	C	K		T	I	A
S	E	T				N	E	E		O	D	D



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JUMBLE

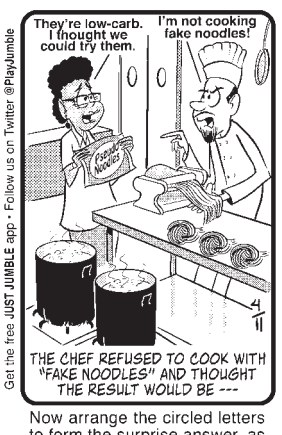
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

MLUPP

VLANA

VCATIE

WUYBAS


They're low-carb. I thought we could try them.
I'm not cooking fake noodles!
THE CHEF REFUSED TO COOK WITH "FAKE NOODLES" AND THOUGHT THE RESULT WOULD BE ---

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here: " " (Answers Monday)

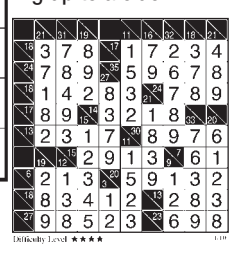
Yesterday's Jumbles: GIANT ELITE WEAKLY INTENT
Answer: Karl Benz helped pioneer internal-combustion vehicles thanks to his — "ENGINE-NEW-ITY"

KAKURO

	14	29	16	27		7	19	13	22
26					26				
21					10 8				
11			21						
16			16 17			6 29			
	23	3 11			5 16			23	15
8				17 11			14		
35							3 7		
11					30				
18					10				

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 4/11

How to play: Numbers above the slash are across clues; numbers below the slash are down clues. The goal is to enter digits 1-9 in the white cells to add up to the number clues. You cannot use any digit more than once when adding up to a clue.



BRIDGE

The Senior Life Master was having a quiet glass of wine in the bridge club lounge. Then, when the duplicate ended, several people came into the bar. Most of them were discussing Board 11.

One player sat down, handed the SLM a hand record, folded so that he could not see the East-West hands.

"I went down in three no-trump," said the young man, "but Deep Finesse (a software package that works out who can make what based on knowledge of the locations of all 52 cards) claims it is makable on any lead. What should I have done after West led the club 10?"

While the man mentioned that they had had a simple Stayman auction, the SLM studied the deal. After a few moments, he said, "I assume you covered the club 10 with dummy's jack."

"Yes, of course," he replied, "but East took the trick and returned his remaining club. Then, when I drove out the spade ace, West cashed three club tricks."

The SLM nodded, trying not to smile. "If clubs are 4-3, you can lose only one spade and three clubs. So worry about a 5-2 club split. If that is the position, East is more likely to have honor-doubleton than a low doubleton. So, at trick one, you should have played a low club from the board, not covered with an honor."

There was a brief pause, then the young man exclaimed, "Oh, yes, of course! The club suit blocks."

"Don't be too hard on yourself, because if West had had both top clubs, you would have gained an overtrick, which would have been valuable in the duplicate."

North 04-11-20
♠ K J 10 6
♥ 9 2
♦ K J 4
♣ Q J 4 2

West
♠ A 9 2
♥ 10 8 3
♦ 7 6
♣ K 10 9 8 7

East
♠ 8 7 5
♥ Q 7 6 5
♦ 10 8 5 3
♣ A 5

South
♠ Q 4 3
♥ A K J 4
♦ A Q 9 2
♣ 6 3

Dealer: South
Vulnerable: Neither

South	West	North	East
1NT	Pass	2♣	Pass
2♥	Pass	3NT	All Pass

Opening lead: ♣ 10

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ☆☆☆☆☆

			8	1		4		5
	3				4			
	7			3		1		
		2					1	9
				6				
8	5					3		
		4		9			5	
			3				2	
5		9		8	1			

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How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

PREVIOUS SOLUTION

7	9	2	8	3	1	4	6	5
3	4	5	9	6	7	2	8	1
8	6	1	5	4	2	9	3	7
6	3	9	4	1	5	8	7	2
1	2	7	3	9	8	6	5	4
4	5	8	2	7	6	3	1	9
5	7	4	6	2	3	1	9	8
2	1	6	7	8	9	5	4	3
9	8	3	1	5	4	7	2	6

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DAVE BROWN Managing Editor
DALE BREWER Local News Editor
KATIE KRAWCZAK Design Editor

Now is not the time to cast blame

Kathleen Parker

Recently, I heard myself say something rarely thought, must less expressed, as I was talking to a friend on the phone: "You know, from now on, I think everything we say and do has to be prefaced by the question: Is it helpful?

This is an echo of the physician's creed: "Above all, do no harm." But it isn't typically the first thought of most columnists, including this one. Oh, don't get me wrong, we want to save the world with small gestures of biting wit and well-slung sarcasm. But, generally speaking, writing a column isn't far afield from H.L. Mencken's observation that "Every normal man must be tempted, at times, to spit upon his hands, hoist the black flag, and begin slitting throats."

Pandemics necessarily change one's tune. The normal man or woman today just wants to survive. Me, too.

An honest answer to my question, of course, would end many a critic's career. But some criticism is valuable and necessary, if based in fact and lucid observation. Which brings me to a short detour to address an unintentional mistake I made in a recent column, citing Donald Trump's calling the novel coronavirus a "hoax." I wasn't aware that this wasn't so until several readers wrote to inform me. With apologies to the president, Trump said that Democrats were using the pandemic as a hoax to take him down.

Let the record reflect: President Trump never said the pandemic was a hoax. He did suggest that the narrative about his mishandling of the pandemic was a hoax. I regret the error. But allow me to post an asterisk as well: Trump has told so many untruths, called so many challenges "hoaxes," and tried to discredit so many people who displayed what he views as disloyalty by disagreeing with him that it's easy to understand how the incorrect hoax attribution gained traction.

This shouldn't be construed as justification but merely a larger context in which to appraise the president. Criticism is not, in every case, a function of bias, as his supporters often charge, but is sometimes a necessary balance to Trump's shifting definitions of reality.

While I'm in a generous mood, it may not be entirely true that the president ignored early warnings and the advice of his scientific advisers concerning the virus. To be sure, Trump can be maddening in his elocutions, such as that the virus will just disappear "like a miracle" – pronounced with a wand-like flourish of his hand. Trump *did* say that.

But it was difficult to know how seriously to take the reports of the virus sweeping through Wuhan province earlier this year. At first, most reports were sketchy; the Chinese were not exactly candid about what they knew, or if they were trying to get to the bottom of it. In the early days, even Anthony Fauci, director of the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases, spoke cautiously about the likelihood that COVID-19 was a threat to America if only to avoid sparking a panic.

On Feb. 17, Fauci said that the danger to Americans of getting coronavirus was "just minusculely low." The greater danger, he said, was the seasonal flu. This was broadly believed to be true at the time, when there were only 13 Americans who were confirmed positive, almost all of whom were on board the Diamond Princess cruise ship docked off the coast of Japan. Yes, at times, he said the risk of the virus coming to America broadly was "low," but he would typically follow such comments by warning that things could change quickly.

A campaign from the right to discredit Fauci is now in full swing, apparently because the media seem to admire him, or because forces in the administration do not, or both. In the past 24 hours, I've seen a 2013 email circulating on social media, allegedly from Wikileaks, that Fauci wrote to Hillary Clinton praising her "stamina and capability" during her testimony as secretary of state before the congressional committee investigating the attacks in Benghazi, Libya. Pairing Fauci and Clinton is all that's needed to revive the lock-her-up chorus and toss Fauci into the bargain.

An article recently posted on Real Clear Politics includes a timeline of comments made by Fauci that appear in retrospect to suggest that he (and others) understated the significance of the virus. But a closer examination of the quotes often reveals that many are taken out of their full, and usually careful, context. It all prompts me to ask: Is that helpful?

As a result of all the blaming and shaming, it's even harder than usual to know whom or what to believe. Weeks ago, we were told masks weren't necessary. Now, apparently, we need them any time we leave the house. Could this have been foreseen? Common sense suggests as much. Would people have worn them? I don't know. But the change in policy is unnerving, suggestive that lives could have been saved had we been more careful sooner. Anger about this back and forth is understandable, but it isn't helpful.

There will be plenty of time when this is over to affix blame. In the meantime, as Queen Elizabeth advised her nation and the world, we should remain calm. For the frustrated pirates among you, I'm told black flags make excellent masks.

Kathleen Parker is a columnist for The Washington Post.

Three big questions nobody is answering

Ben Shapiro

This week, according to members of the federal government, and state and local governments, Americans have begun to flatten the curve in the novel coronavirus outbreak. The excitement was muted – after all, trends can easily reverse – but real. Americans have abided by recommendations and orders. They've left their jobs to stay at home; they've practiced social distancing; in many places, they've donned masks. The result: a reduction in expected hospitalization and death. According to the University of Washington Institute for Health Metrics and Evaluation model most oft cited by members of the Trump administration, the expected need for hospital beds at peak outbreak was revised down by over 120,000, the number of ventilators by nearly 13,000 and the number of overall deaths by August by nearly 12,000.

Here's the problem: We still don't know the answers to the key questions that will allow the economy to reopen.

First, what is the true coronavirus fatality rate? This question is important because it determines whether certain areas ought to be open or closed, whether we ought to pursue – Sweden style – a more liberalized society that presumes wide spread, or whether we ought to lock down further.

We've seen case fatality rates – the number of deaths divided by the number of identified COVID-19 cases – but both the numerator and the denominator are likely wrong. We don't know how many people have actually died of coronavirus. Some sources suggest the number has been overestimated, given that classification for cause of death, particularly among elderly patients, can be variable. Some sources suggest the number is dramatically underestimated, since many people are dying at home.

Even more importantly, we have no clue how many Americans actually have coronavirus. Some scientists suggest that the number of identified cases could be an order of magnitude lower than the number of people who have had coronavirus and not been tested. That would mean that the fatality rate is actually far lower than suggested, even if the transmission rate is high.

Secondly, what are we expecting in terms of a second wave? The institute's model simply cuts off in early August. It does not predict how many people will die in a second wave. This is the most important problem because some experts maintain that the virus is seasonal, which means we are likely to see more serious spreading in the fall. And *that* means we will be faced with either renewed lockdowns for large swaths of the population, with wide-scale testing and contact tracing, or with the realization that we will have to isolate those who are most vulnerable and let everyone else work.

Which raises the third question: What exactly *can* we do? Are we capable of rolling out tens of millions of tests over the next few months – and compelling people to take tests regularly, since the virus is transmittable while carriers are asymptomatic? Can we create a contact tracing system for 330 million Americans – and are we willing to submit ourselves to one?

One thing is certain: Things cannot continue as they have been. Americans are not going to stay home for months on end, and they certainly will not do so on the basis of ever-evolving models, especially as statistics roll in that look like the lower-end model estimates in terms of death and the upper-end estimates in terms of economic damage. We need transparency and honesty from our scientific experts – we need to know what they know, what they don't and when they hope to know what they don't. We're grown-ups, and we're willing to follow their advice. But they need to start answering serious questions, or they will fall prey to the same lack of institutional faith to which all other American institutions seem deeply prone.

Ben Shapiro is editor-in-chief of DailyWire.com.

LETTERS

We can't afford to fail November test

Editor,

Recently we learned from an absurd man with an oddly bronzed face and bizarrely combed hair, at a coronavirus task-force news briefing no less, that this man-child had an enormous an historically huge amount of Facebook followers – even though that factoid was just another fantasy, like we have been bombarded with for far too long.

Fast forward to November's Test For America, test. We can only pray that we'll pass this time.

James Brack
South Haven

Blame for pandemic rests with China's regime

Editor,

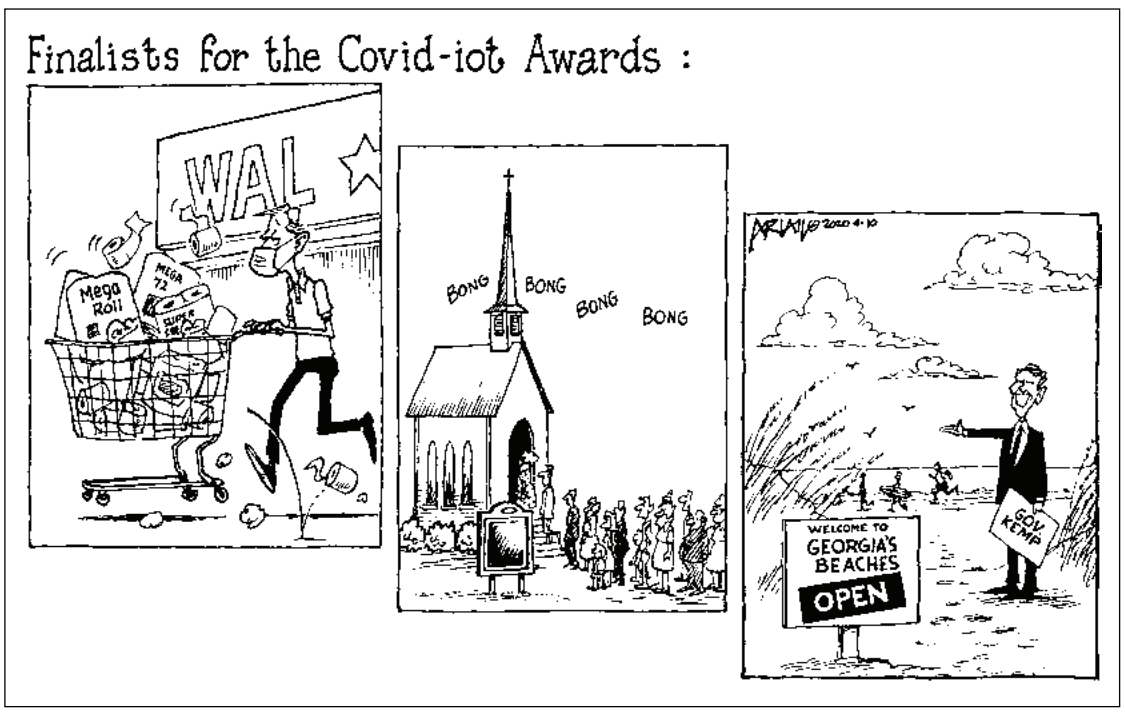
The world would not be going through this coronavirus pandemic if China's authoritarian, corrupt government would not have been involved in a massive cover up. The first evidence of the coronavirus appeared in Wuhan, China during the last part of November. The Chinese government kept saying it wasn't very serious or contagious while evidence was piling up to the contrary. Dr. Ai Fen of Wuhan, China was on the forefront in working with this virus. She was very concerned about the Chinese public not getting the facts and started getting the truth out about the seriousness of the virus on social media. Within weeks she disappeared, not to be heard from again. Shortly after that the Chinese government allowed the city of Wuhan to celebrate its New Year with people on the street sharing food.

The Chinese government is so afraid of the truth about the numbers of the COVID-19 virus coming out they have expelled all foreign correspondents. Radio-free Asia has been in contact with some insiders in Wuhan, and they are saying the number of deaths there actually is in the neighborhood of 40,000.

Undeniably this virus came from China, and yet there are media apologists pointing their finger anywhere but at the Chinese government. After finding out about the seriousness of the virus, President Trump announced a travel ban on Chinese citizens coming into the United State, on Jan. 31. This occurred only 10 days after our first case of COVID-19 appeared in Seattle. He later he put a travel ban on the citizens of Europe, as well. These bans saved thousands of lives, according to Dr. Deborah Birx, one of the main players on Trump's pandemic control team. The media had no shame in calling him a racist for these actions.

The sentiment of this letter should not be interpreted as being against the Chinese people. They are good, hard-working people just like us. However, their communist, authoritarian government is corrupt and cannot be trusted.

Leon Savenas
St. Joseph



Sen. Gary Peters is an exceptional leader

Editor,

Sen. Gary Peters is a conscientious, honest and highly competent leader. During the COVID-19 coronavirus crisis, he has repeatedly taken decisive action to combat the spread of this dangerous disease and to counter the economic damage it has created.

On March 12, Sen. Peters, who is the ranking member of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee, introduced legislation to expand access to free COVID-19 testing. He also pressed the Trump administration to ensure that health care facilities across the country were equipped to handle the large number of Americans who were likely to need to be tested as the virus spreads. In explaining the need for this legislation, Sen. Peters said: "Widely available testing is the most effective way to identify and contain COVID-19 cases before they spread further, and our nation's inadequate testing program is simply unacceptable."

Sen. Peters also pressed the administration to take immediate action to ensure that all health care providers (doctors, nurses, technicians, etc.) were supplied with the personal protective equipment they need to safeguard themselves and their patients from exposure to the virus.

On the same day that he introduced the COVID-19 Free Testing Bill, Sen. Peters also led the introduction of the bipartisan Coronavirus Worker Relief Act. This legislation provided disaster unemployment assistance to all individuals who were unable to work due to the coronavirus outbreak. Included in this assistance were "all workers who are sick, quarantined, furloughed, or whose family circumstances keep them from working or reduce their pay as a result of the coronavirus outbreak or government containment efforts." When he introduced this bill, Sen. Peters said: "We need to do everything possible to support workers and families during this challenging time."

Both the COVID-19 Free Testing Bill and the Coronavirus Worker Relief Act that Sen. Peters was instrumental in introducing were incorporated into the bills passed by both houses of Congress and signed by the president.

Michigan is blessed to have Gary Peters as one of our two excellent senators. Our state and our country need his knowledge, his experience, his voice, and his determination to do what is right. We need to re-elect senator Peters this November.

Larry Feldman
Lakeside

Mainstream media only reports spin

Editor,

Perhaps it's time for the Trump haters to consider getting their news from sources that are a little more accurate and reliable than CNN, MSNBC, the NY Times, Washington Post, the legacy TV networks, Media Matters, Huffington Post and others.

Let's see! They said there was no way Trump could get the nomination. Then there was no way he could beat HRC. They made light of his claim that the Obama regime spied on his campaign. Now we know that illegal spying was exactly what they did. They lied to a FISA court 17 times to get warrants to spy on Trump and others in his orbit. They breathlessly cheered the Mueller investigation that would lead to his impeachment, except that the report didn't find any collusion or conspiracy. They reported Trump ordered Michael Cohen to lie to Congress, only to have Muller rebuke that notion. They were wrong about the Covington High School kids and are now being sued for defamation. They took the word of a congressman (he has been caught in so many lies it makes you wonder why anyone would listen to anything he says), who said Ambassador Sondland testified that Trump ordered a quid pro quo with the Ukraine, when in further testimony he said the opposite and it was only is opinion. They were wrong about The Kavanaugh debacle, where the accusers witness said it never happened. And shortly thereafter, he (Kavanaugh) was accused of being a serial rapist. Now we know that not to be true and media darling Michael Avenatti and his client are both going to jail.

They were happy to report that racism reared its ugly head with Jussie Smollett's false testimony. They were wrong when they accused Trump of offering Julian Assange a pardon if he denied a Russian link. The latest is that Trump eliminated the National Security Council Directorate for Global Health, when all he did was move some people and streamline one of the many bloated agencies in our government.

There are many other instances and outrages of news that were wrong. My opinion is that these "news" agencies are nothing short of being the media wing of the DNC. The Media should be tough on our politicians and ask follow up questions, not just Republicans. Right now they cannot be trusted to give unbiased and truthful "news."

Mike Phelan
St. Joseph

Write us

Here's how to submit a letter to the editor:

Email: letters@TheHP.com

Regular mail: Editorial Page, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085

OBITUARIES

James L. Wyse

May 20, 1931 – April 5, 2020

On Sunday, April 5, 2020, Dr. James L. Wyse, loving husband and father of two children, passed away peacefully at the age of 88.

Jim was born on May 20, 1931, in Newberry, Mich., to Larry and Clara Wyse. He received his bachelor's degree from Albion College in 1957 after proudly serving in the United States Navy from 1951 to 1955. On Jan. 24, 1959, he married Mary Anne Tiscornia. Jim graduated as a Doctor of Dental Surgery (D.D.S.) from the University of Detroit in 1960, and later earned a master's degree in orthodontics from the University of Detroit. He managed a successful practice in St. Joseph for many years.

Together with Mary Anne, they raised two children, a daughter, Ingrid (Porter), and a son, J. Christopher.

Jim had a passion for sailing, skiing, golf, travel and especially for fly fishing. He and Mary Anne spent endless days fly fishing the trout streams of Northern Michigan and even traveled the world in search of calm waters and the peacefulness of the perfect cast. He was known for his warm friendships, thoughtfulness and compassion.

Jim was preceded in death by his wife, Mary Anne; and two sisters, Phyllis and Mary.

He is survived by two children and their spouses, William Porter and Elke Wyse. He is also survived by six grandchildren, including, Timothy Porter (who is engaged to Carley Mader), William Porter Jr., Emily Porter and Sarah Porter, as well as J. Christopher Wyse Jr. and Lainie Wyse.

Jim's family is honoring his memory with contributions to the Au Stable River Association in Michigan in his name. The family is also planning a celebration of life in Jim's honor at a later date.

Edward Nathan Yetzke

July 5, 1923 – April 4, 2020

Edward Nathan Yetzke passed away April 4, 2020, in Atlanta, Texas, after a short illness.

He was 96, born in St. Joseph on July 5, 1923, an original Sand Rabbit. The son of Edward and Emma (Walter) Yetzke, he attended St. Joseph High School and joined the Army in 1943. He fought in World War II and was awarded the Combat Infantry Badge following the Luzon Campaign in the Philippines. He retired from Bendix Co. and moved to Pullman, Mich., wintering in Texas, and later moved there permanently.

He married Lucille Miney on July 12, 1946, and they had five sons. After her death in 1967, he married Anna Ruth Osborne on June 28, 1969. They celebrated their 50th anniversary last year.

Ed is survived by sons: Ed (Lori) Yetzke of Stevensville, John (Marge) Yetzke of Watervliet, Keith (Karla) Yetzke of Pullman, Timothy Yetzke of Grand Junction and Brian (Terry) Smith of Atlanta, Texas; eight grandchildren; and 13 great-grandchildren.

His son, Patrick, preceded him; as did all 11 of his siblings; and granddaughter, Heather Metz.

Death notices

Gary R. Bush, 80, of St. Joseph died April 7, 2020, at Caretel Inns of Lakeland, St. Joseph. Starks & Menchinger Chapel and Cremation Services, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Glyn Durston II, 75, of Stevensville died March 28, 2020, at home. Neptune Society, Grand Rapids, Mich., (616) 656-0083.

Lynn A. Harrington, 81, of Stevensville died April 9, 2020, at Caretel Inns of Lakeland, St. Joseph. Starks & Menchinger Chapel and Cremation Services, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Robert T. Hatch, 97, of St. Joseph died April 9, 2020, at Hanson Hospice Center, Stevensville. Starks & Menchinger Chapel and Cremation Services, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Warren J. "Joe" Johnston, 86, of St. Joseph died April 8, 2020, at Caretel Inns of Lakeland, St. Joseph. Starks & Menchinger Chapel and Cremation Services, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Phillip Nadeau, 88, of Covert died April 10, 2020, at his residence. Duffield & Pastrick Family Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Coloma, 468-6000.

Sheryl J. O'Donnell, 75, of Crystal Lake, Ill., formerly of Benton Harbor died April 9, 2020. Davenport Family Funeral Homes & Crematory, Crystal Lake, (815) 459-3411.

Gerald L. Schaffer, 81, of Sawyer died April 8, 2020, at home. Pike Funeral Home, Boyd Chapel, Bridgman, 465-3239.

Ruth M. Stubalt, 92, formerly of Benton Township died April 9, 2020, at The Willows, St. Joseph. Fairplain Chapel, Florin Funeral Service, Benton Harbor, 926-7222.

Geraldine T. Vavra, 93, of Three Oaks died April 8, 2020, at home. Wager Family Funerals, Pobocik Chapel, Three Oaks, 756-3831.

James L. Wyse, 88, formerly of St. Joseph died April 5, 2020. Murphy Funeral Home, Chagrin Falls, Ohio, (440) 247-3400.

Edward N. Yetzke, 96, of Atlanta, Texas, formerly of St. Joseph died April 4, 2020. Queen City Funeral Home, Queen City, Texas, (903) 796-9669.

Geraldine Theresa Vavra

Feb. 1, 1927 – April 8, 2020

Geraldine Theresa Vavra, 93, of Three Oaks passed away Wednesday, April 8, 2020, peacefully at home.

Geraldine was born Feb. 1, 1927, in Chicago, to John F. and Clara Dorothy (Damptz) Pionke. She married Richard George Vavra on April 3, 1948, and he preceded her in death on June 3, 2008.

Geraldine cherished her family. She enjoyed every opportunity to see her grandchildren, great-grandchildren, great-great-granddaughter and many nieces and nephews. She had a family reunion a few years back which gave her the chance to see most of her extended family. She grew up in the city, but learned to enjoy farm living in Southwest Michigan.

She is survived by her sister, Rosemary (Pionke) Druffel; five children: Donna (Richard) Vavra-Musser, Mary Vavra, Irene (John) Vavra Sinner, Andrew (Gloria) Vavra and Carol Vavra; as well as eight grandchildren: David Vavra, Kate Vavra-Musser, Michael Bowen, Kevin Keen, Stuart Vavra, Sarah Mooney, Hannah Vavra and Alex Keen; four great-grandchildren: Tyler Vavra, Abigail Vavra, Freya Mooney and Rowan Mooney; and one great-great-granddaughter, LillaMai Vavra.

Geraldine was preceded in death by her parents; her granddaughter, Emily Vavra; brothers, Edmond Pionke, John Pionke, James Pionke and Richard Pionke; and sisters, Helen Pionke, Clara Pionke, Frances (Pionke) Lesser, Lorraine (Pionke) Kehoe and Laverne (Pionke) Badini.

Geraldine will be laid to rest next to her husband, Richard Vavra. A private family graveside service will be held at a later date in Pine Grove Cemetery, New Buffalo.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Pobocik Chape, Wagner Family Funerals, 106 Ash Street East, Three Oaks, MI 49128. Please share a message or memory online: wagnercares.com.

Gerald Leroy Schaffer

Jan. 1, 1939 – April 8, 2020

Gerald Leroy Schaffer, 81, of Sawyer passed away on Wednesday, April 8, 2020, at his home in the care of his family.

The family gathered for a private viewing and committal service. A public Celebration of Life will be announced later. Final resting place will be in New Troy Cemetery, New Troy. Memorial contributions may be made to Trinity Lutheran Church, 5701 Sawyer Road, Sawyer, MI 49125, River Valley Senior Center, P.O. Box 275, Harbert, MI 49115 or River Valley Athletics, 15480 Three Oaks Road, Three Oaks, MI 49128. Online condolences accepted at www.PikeFH.com.

Gerald was born Jan. 1, 1939, in New Troy, the son of the late Albert Henry and Marie Martha (Gnodtke) Schaffer. On Aug. 8, 1959, he married Peggie Jean Bueghly, celebrating 60 years together. Jerry and Peggie enjoyed traveling together and spending time with their grandchildren. Besides his love of basketball, he also enjoyed being outdoors and working around his home and property. For 48 years Jerry taught and coached, with 38 years at River Valley High School. He was a lifelong member of Trinity Lutheran Church in Sawyer.

Survivors include his wife, Peggie; sons: Gary (Becky) Schaffer, Gregg (Julie) Schaffer, David (Cathy) Schaffer and Doug (Peggy) Schaffer; grandchildren: Arron, Josh, Lindsey, Andrew, Micah, Emma, Jenna and Rylee Schaffer; brother, Albert Schaffer; and sister, Alice Germain.

Gerald was preceded in death by his brothers, Robert and Ronald Schaffer.

Lynn A. Harrington

Jan. 19, 1939 – April 9, 2020

Lynn A. Harrington, 81, of Stevensville passed away at Caretel Inns of Lakeland on Thursday, April 9, 2020. Arrangements have been entrusted to Starks & Menchinger Chapel, 2650 Niles Road, St. Joseph.

Lynn was born on Jan. 19, 1939, in Flint, Mich., to the late Alfred and Lorene (Rouse) Harrington. He was a 1957 graduate of Berrien Springs High School. Lynn served in the U.S. Army reserves. On Dec. 29, 1963, he married Mary Pebler in Niles. Lynn worked at UPS over 30 years and retired in 2000. He attended First Church of God in St. Joseph and memorial contributions in his name may be made to the First Church Car Ministry. Lynn loved fishing, yardwork and traveling.

Lynn is survived by his wife, Mary; children, Teri McClellan of Fremont, Ind., and Tina (Lowell) Korfmacher of Benton Harbor; grandchildren: Steven Embry, Andrew (Sloane) Embry, Britney (John) George, Casey (Jesse) Resseguie and Cody (Gillian) Korfmacher; and eight great-grandchildren.

Private family services will be held with Lynn's final resting place being at Hickory Bluff Cemetery in Stevensville.

Ruth M. Stubalt

July 8, 1927 – April 9, 2020

Ruth M. Stubalt, 92, formerly of Benton Township died Thursday, April 9, 2020, at The Willows Assisted Living in Royalton Township.

A family service will be held at a later date and cremation has taken place. Arrangements are by the Fairplain Chapel of Florin Funeral Service in Benton Township. Memorials may be made to Grace Lutheran Church. Please share messages, memories or photos at www.florin.net.

Ruth was born on July 8, 1927, in Benton Township, to Henry and Natalie Heritz. She married her husband, Harold Stubalt, and he preceded her in death in 2011. They were married in 1950 and celebrated 60 years of marriage. She was a member of Grace Lutheran Church in Royalton Township. Ruth and her husband had a farm on Benton Center Road for many years. Many friends and family remember her enjoying her "secret" garden on the farm.

Her family includes: Mary Fenrick of Sodus, Susan Fanco of Watervliet, Shirley Stubalt of Grandville, Mich., and Douglas Stubalt of San Jose, Calif.; her sister, Ellen Briney of Niles; her brother, Henry Heritz of Alaska; her four grandchildren; and two great-grandchildren.

She was also preceded in death by her parents; her sister, Henriette; and her brother, Walter.

Warren Joseph 'Joe' Johnston

Feb. 15, 1934 – April 8, 2020

Warren Joseph "Joe" Johnston, 86, of St. Joseph passed away on Wednesday, April 8, 2020, at Caretel Inns of Lakeland.

Joe was born on Feb. 15, 1934, to Warren and Helen (Murray) Johnston in Escanaba, Mich. He graduated from Escanaba High School and Western Michigan University. Joe proudly served his country in the U.S. Army after the Korean War before he was honorably discharged. On Aug. 31, 1957, Joe married the love of his life, Clara "Mitzi" Rapes, in Niles. Joe owned and operated Johnston Health Products for over 44 years. He was still making sales until his passing. He enjoyed boating, fishing and traveling. Most of all, he loved to spend his time with his family.

Joe is survived by his children, Lisa (Greg) Mercer of Plymouth, Ind., and Thomas Johnston of Benton Harbor; grandchildren, Mack Mercer and Thomas Johnston II; and great-grandchild, Wyatt Johnston.

Joe was preceded in death by his parents; wife, Mitzi Johnston on May 3, 2019; and two sisters.

Memorial contributions may be made to any hospice organization of the donor's choice. Those wishing to leave an online condolence may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Charles Howard Krone

Nov. 7, 1952 – April 9, 2020

Charles Howard Krone, 67, of Three Oaks died peacefully, Thursday morning, April 9, 2020, in the comfort of his family's presence.

He was born Nov. 7, 1952, in Kansas City, Mo., the only child of Howard and June Krone. He married Karen Jankowski on July 31, 1989, in New Buffalo.

Chuck was Superman (his wife called him "Clark" and best friend). He was known as Pops by his children and children's friends. He was a wonderful husband, father, grandfather, brother-in-law, friend and mentor. Chuck always put other people's need ahead of his own. If someone needed something, all they had to do was let him know. Chuck always tried to do what was right and was always helping people and animals.

Chuck served honorably in the U.S. Army. He was known for his cooking, both at restaurants and at family gatherings. He served his community for over 15 years delivering newspapers for various publishers. Chuck's granddaughter remembers him as her "Dad" who loved her, helped her with her homework, as well as anything she needed help with and could fix anything.

Even after his life on earth ended, Chuck continued to give generously to his community by donating tissue to Gift of Life.

Chuck will be greatly missed by family and friends. He is survived by his wife of over 30 years, Karen Jankowski-Krone of Three Oaks; one daughter, Heidi Friedburg of Benton Harbor; one son, Ryan (Amy) Friedburg of Benton Harbor; his golden retriever, Olivia; seven grandchildren: Emily Shreve, Natalie Shreve, Noah Jones, Kylee Alexander, Delilah Alexander, Cedar Friedburg and Riverlyn Friedburg; one brother-in-law, Duane (Martha) Jankowski of Yakima, Wash.; two sisters-in-law, Donna (Gerald) Briggs of Baroda and Judith (Paul) Pedzinski of Three Oaks; and cousins, LuAnne (Doug) Tabbert of Hillsdale and Pete Roberson.

He was preceded in death by his parents and one brother-in-law, Mark Jankowski.

The family will observe a private remembrance. Arrangements have been entrusted to Pobocik Chapel, Wagner Family Funerals, Three Oaks. Please share a memory or a message online: wagnercares.com.

Sheryl J. O'Donnell

June 21, 1944 – April 9, 2020

Sheryl J. O'Donnell was born June 21, 1944, in Sikeston, Mo. She passed away peacefully on April 9, 2020.

Sheryl was grant writer for Home of the Sparrow and Turning Point, serving McHenry County for nearly 20 years. She was raised in Benton Harbor and resided in the Crystal Lake area for over 30 years.

Sheryl is survived by her children, Elizabeth (Art) St. Amand and Aaron (Sarah) Schadt; stepchildren, Patrick (Mary) O'Donnell, Kelly (Stephen) Van Goethem and Michael O'Donnell; grandchildren: Abby, Callie, Patrick James, Lauren, Stephanie, Michael Jr. and Rileigh; and brother, Gary (Sheri) Warren.

She was preceded in death by her husband, Dennis O'Donnell; brother, Larry Warren; stepson, Kevin O'Donnell; and her parents.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Home of the Sparrow, Crystal Lake, www.hosparrow.org.

Immediate services will be private and a memorial service will be planned for a later date. Please visit www.davenportfamily.com for updated service information and to leave condolences.

William 'Tony' Behler Jr.

Sept. 19, 1948 – April 8, 2020

William "Tony" Behler Jr., 71, of Three Oaks died peacefully, April 8, 2020.

He was born Sept. 19, 1948, in Three Oaks, the youngest of four children of William and Mary Behler Sr. Tony served honorably in the U.S. Army and was awarded the Purple Heart and several military commendations.

Tony will be greatly missed by family and friends. He is survived by his son, Daniel (Dana) Behler of Hobart, Ind.; and two sisters, Lois Behler Allwood and Billie Jean Behler, both of Three Oaks.

He was preceded in death by his parents; a son, William A. Behler III; and one sister, Margo Behler.

The family will observe a private graveside service with military honors in Forest Lawn Cemetery in Three Oaks, where Mr. Behler will be laid to rest beside his family.

Arrangements have been entrusted to Pobocik Chapel, Wagner Family Funerals, Three Oaks. Please share a memory or a message online: wagnercares.com.

1st results in on Gilead coronavirus drug; more study needed

By MARILYNN MARCHIONE
AP Chief Medical Writer

More than half of a group of severely ill coronavirus patients improved after receiving an experimental antiviral drug, although there's no way to know the odds of that happening without the drug because there was no comparison group, doctors reported Friday.

The results published by the New England Journal of Medicine are the first in COVID-19 patients for remdesivir. The Gilead Sciences drug has shown promise against other coronaviruses in the past and in lab tests against the one causing the current pandemic, which now has claimed more than 100,000 lives.

No drugs are approved now for treating the disease. At least five large studies are testing remdesivir, and the company also has given it to more than 1,700 patients on a case-by-case emergency basis.

Friday's results are on 53 of those patients, ages 23 to 82, hospitalized in the United States, Europe, Canada and Japan. Thirty-four of them were sick enough to require breathing machines.

All were given the drug through an IV for 10 days or as long as they tolerated it.

After 18 days on average, 36 patients, or 68 percent, needed less oxygen or breathing machine support. Eight others worsened.

Seven patients died, nearly all of them over age 70. That 13 percent mortality rate is lower than seen in some other reports, but no true comparisons can be made without a study rigorously testing the drug in similar groups of patients, the authors noted.

DO YOU REMEMBER?

25 years ago – 1995

Northwest Airlines announced it will begin Benton Harbor-Detroit commuter air service June 20 with three daily round-trip flights from Southwest Michigan Regional Airport to Detroit Metro Airport. Northwest is guaranteed state and local financial assistance if it doesn't break even in the first couple of years, a state official said.

When service begins, it will mark the first time in five years that commercial passenger travel will fly to and from Benton Harbor.

35 years ago – 1985

Heathkit Electronic Centers, one of the largest specialty electronic retailing chains in the country, is undergoing a name change and major shift in product emphasis starting this month.

Joseph Schulte, president of Veritechnology Electronics Corp. of St. Joseph, announced that the stores are being renamed Heath/Zenith Computers & Electronics and will be remodeled to encourage computer and electronics shoppers to sit down and get involved with the merchandise.

50 years ago – 1970

Benton Harbor schools' new Skill Center is a former factory at 373 South Fair Avenue, Benton Harbor. Purchased and extensively renovated by Whirlpool to fit educational specifications, it has been leased to the school district for five years at $1 a year. Its classes are intended to prepare students for jobs after graduation. In ceremonies Sunday afternoon, Whirlpool representatives will turn over the key to school officials.

TODAY IN HISTORY

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Saturday, April 11, the 102nd day of 2020. There are 264 days left in the year.

Highlight in history:

On April 11, 1980, the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission issued regulations specifically prohibiting sexual harassment of workers by supervisors.

On this date:

In 1814, Napoleon Bonaparte abdicated as Emperor of the French and was banished to the island of Elba. (Napoleon later escaped from Elba and returned to power in March 1815, until his downfall in the Battle of Waterloo in June 1815.)

In 1865, President Abraham Lincoln spoke to a crowd outside the White House, saying, "We meet this evening, not in sorrow, but in gladness of heart." (It was the last public address Lincoln would deliver.)

In 1921, Iowa became the first state to impose a cigarette tax, at 2 cents a package.

In 1945, during World War II, American soldiers liberated the Nazi concentration camp Buchenwald in Germany.

In 1951, President Harry S. Truman relieved Gen. Douglas MacArthur of his commands in the Far East.

In 1961, former SS officer Adolf Eichmann went on trial in Israel, charged with crimes against humanity for his role in the Nazi Holocaust. (Eichmann was convicted and executed.)

5-Day Forecast for St. Joseph

Today	Tonight	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday
Cloudy	Showers Likely	Showers Likely	Showers Likely	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy
52°	44°	53° / 41°	43° / 32°	38° / 34°	36° / 32°

Local Outlook

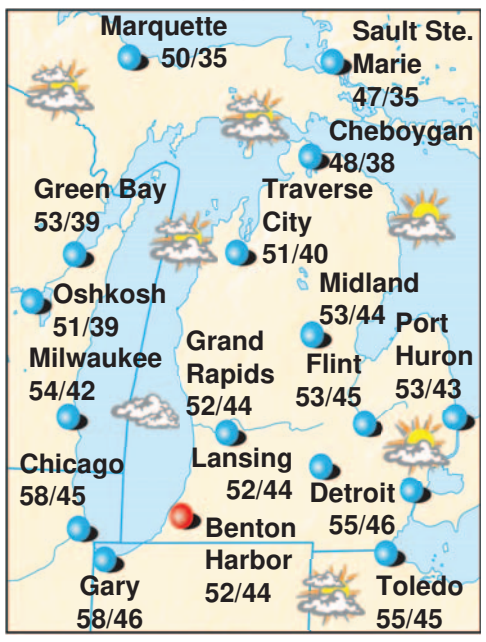
Today we will see cloudy skies with a slight chance of showers, high temperature of 52°, humidity of 55%. South wind 7 to 11 mph. Expect cloudy skies tonight with a 75% chance of showers, overnight low of 44°. South southeast wind 7 to 10 mph.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise ..... 7:10 a.m.
Sunset ..... 8:23 p.m.
Moonrise ..... Yesterday
Moonset ..... 9:41 a.m.

Last	New	First	Full
4/14	4/22	4/30	5/7

Regional Map



Local Almanac

Benton Harbor Yesterday

Temperature

High	47°
Low	34°
Normal High	58°
Normal Low	37°
Record High	83° in 2011
Record Low	20° in 2007

Precipitation

Yesterday	0.00"
Month to date	1.26"
Normal for month	1.05"
Year to date	8.15"
Normal Year to date	6.70"

Air Quality

Yesterday 39
Main Offender ..... Ozone

The higher the number, the greater the need for people with respiratory problems to reduce outside activity.

0-50 ..... Good
51-100 ..... Moderate
101-150 .... Sensitive
151-200 .. Unhealthy

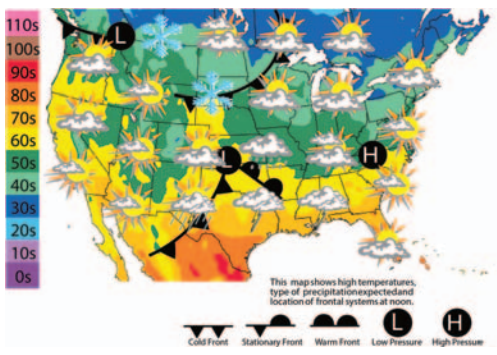
Weather Trivia

Do solar eclipses influence the weather?

Answer: Yes, the giant shadow cast on the Earth causes temperatures to fall.

National Weather Map

Forecast map for April 11, 2020



For latest weather updates: **www.UpdatedWx.com/HP**

Lake Michigan

Today, S wind around 9 kt. A chance of showers. Waves around 2 ft. Water temperature 41 degrees. Tonight, SSE wind 8 to 12 kt. Showers. Waves around 1 ft.

Michigan Forecast

Upper Peninsula

Today, skies will be mostly cloudy with highs in the 40s and 50s. South southwest wind 2 to 7 mph. Expect cloudy skies Sunday with widespread rain and snow, highs in the 30s and 40s. East northeast wind 4 to 13 mph.

Lower Peninsula

Today, skies will be mostly cloudy to cloudy with highs in the 50s. South wind 7 to 11 mph. Expect cloudy skies Sunday with widespread showers, highs in the 50s. South southeast wind 7 mph.

'Hope' the giraffe born in New Orleans amid pandemic

NEW ORLEANS (AP) — The Audubon Nature Institute in New Orleans welcomed a new resident, a baby giraffe named Hope.

Sue Ellen, a middle-aged giraffe at the Freeport-McMoRan Audubon Species Survival Center, gave birth Monday, according to a Friday news release.

Audubon Nature Institute President and CEO Ron Forman said Hope was the perfect name for the calf, especially as New Orleans has been hit hard during the coronavirus pandemic.

"What name could be more fitting than 'Hope" in these challenging times?" Forman said. "Hope is what has sustained our community through seemingly insurmountable crises in the past and what we must hold onto as we continue on in the coming days and weeks. May we all take comfort in the reminder that, even in the darkest of days, life continues, undaunted."

Species Survival Center curator Michelle Hatwood said the staff had known the calf was on the way for 15 months but said it can be tough to pinpoint a likely delivery date for giraffes.

The calf was born 6-feet tall, weighing in at 189 pounds.

Located on 1,200 acres of land west of downtown New Orleans, the center is now home to 13 giraffes, the release said. The new calf was the eighth giraffe born at the center as part of the Alliance for Sustainable Wildlife conservation breeding partnership with San Diego Zoo Global.

The giraffes reside in a 46-acre forested area and spend most of their day foraging and looking for their favorite leaves to eat.

Hope, a baby giraffe and her mother Sue Ellen at Freeport-McMoRan Audubon Species Survival Center in New Orleans on April 6.
Jonathan Vogel / Audubon Nature Institute via AP

To help limit potential spread of COVID-19, many medical offices are conducting appointments using video visits or phone calls. Patients are being given user-friendly technology options for care.

All Lakeland medical offices are following strict building access guidelines, including visitor restrictions. However, individuals with essential or serious health needs continue to be seen safely in person.

People who are experiencing acute upper respiratory symptoms or a fever over 100 should call their doctor's office and remain home for seven days after illness onset or 72 hours after resolution of fever and improvement of respiratory symptoms, whichever is longer.

Emergency Departments and Walk-in Clinics

Spectrum Health Lakeland emergency departments in Niles, St. Joseph, and Watervliet remain open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Local walk-in clinics in Niles, Stevensville, and Watervliet are also open. Visitor restrictions are in place.

For Lakeland Medical Practice locations, contact information, and hours, visit **spectrumhealthlakeland.org/locations**

SpectrumHealth Lakeland

hp LOCAL & STATE

Ticking time bomb?

Domestic violence up in some local areas

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

As Michigan residents were ordered to stay at home to help slow the spread of COVID-19, police agencies and safe shelters geared up for a possible increase in domestic violence.

While Berrien County so far has not seen a notable uptick, Van Buren County officials are already dealing with a significant increase in domestic violence complaints.

And there are some early indications that Berrien County could soon see the same.

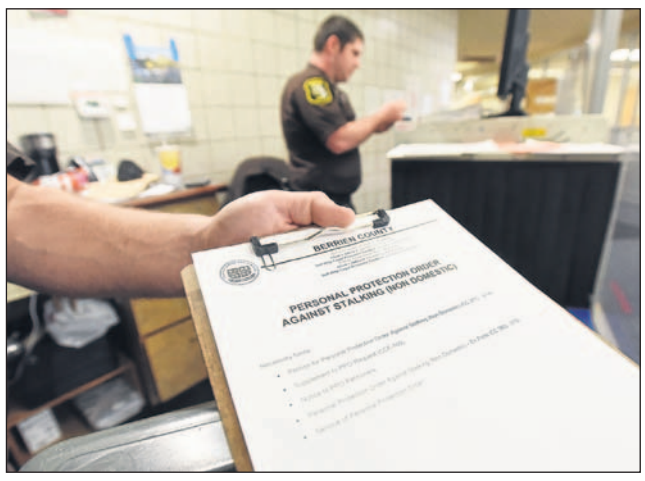
St. Joseph Township Police Chief Randy Leng said that while the number of domestic violence complaints statewide has increased, "for us, we haven't seen it. But the longer it (the quarantine due to the coronavirus outbreak) goes on, the odds are you will see an increase."

Although the Berrien County Courthouse is closed to the public, people can still obtain paperwork to file a personal protection order. The packets, usually handled by the clerk's office, are available from sheriff's deputies at the door between 8:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. Monday through Friday. The completed packets can be returned to one of the on-duty deputies and will be delivered to a judge for consideration.

"The number of all other crimes seems to have decreased, but domestic violence arrests and (warrant) authorizations seem to have stayed roughly the same, making them a greater percentage of cases now than before," said Berrien County Prosecutor Michael Sepic.

Berrien County Sheriff's Department Chief Deputy Robert Boyce said his department responded to 18 domestic violence complaints in March, about the average number. But sheriff's deputies responded to 12 domestic violence complaints in the first nine days of April.

Boyce said it's too early to tell if that's an indication of an ongoing increase in domestic violence in Berrien



Don Campbell / HP staff

Although the Berrien County Courthouse is closed, forms and information for personal protection orders can be picked up at the security station at the main entrance to the courthouse.

See **VIOLENCE**, page B2

SURVEY

Half of Michigan couples say working from home causing a strain

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

Based on a recent survey, nearly half of Michigan couples say working from home has put a strain on their relationship.

Most survey respondents said eight days is the longest they could work from home with their partner before things become tense.

Further, 18 percent said they do not have enough room to work comfortably from home with their partner, according to the survey conducted by GearHungry.com.

On a positive note, one-third of respondents said working from home has increased their productivity, and 56 percent said they are speaking with family more now than before the coronavirus pandemic.

GearHungry.com conducted a survey of 3,000 workers to find out how self-isolation due to COVID-19 is affecting relationships across the U.S. It was found that 47 percent of Michigan couples say working from home every day has put a strain on their relationship, compared to the national average of 45 percent.

At first, the prospect of working at home with a partner may have seemed like a chance to spend more time together. But one in three people surveyed who are working from home now say they do not shower or bathe every day, and 15 percent say they do not get dressed out of their sleeping attire everyday. That, combined with being

See **STRAIN**, page B2

LOOKING TO THE HEAVENS

Don Campbell / HP staff

The sun shines on a trio of crosses outside of Riverview Park Christian Church in St. Joseph on Friday. As Easter Sunday approaches, churches across the country are facing restrictions due to the COVID-19 pandemic, forcing most to hold virtual services online.

BH receives $250,905 in COVID-19 money

Mayor wants face masks for all city residents

By LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writer

BENTON HARBOR — Benton Harbor is being allocated $250,905 from the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act), which was signed into law by President Donald Trump on March 27.

Mayor Marcus Muhammad announced Thursday that the city is receiving the money to help fight the COVID-19 pandemic. The CARES Act made available $5 billion in Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus (CDBG-CV) funds.

"The city manager and I are in talks to ... hopefully purchase (face) masks for every resident," he said.

Muhammad said the masks are needed because the governor's stay-at-home order has been extended to last through April. 30.

"And there's a possibility that that could be extended," he said. "One thing we wanted to do was provide some form of safety for all staff and hopefully, we can purchase enough where all residents will have masks as they go out to get essential goods."

After the meeting, Muhammad said the city's Community and Economic Development Department will collaborate with the Berrien County Health Department and Spectrum Health Lakeland to look at other ways the money could be spent to protect residents from COVID-19.

Many people across the country have been ordered to stay home as governors try to slow the spread of COVID-19, so hospitals aren't overwhelmed.

The U.S. Centers for Disease Control recently recommended that everyone, even if they are not sick, wear face masks when they are out in public, especially at grocery stores and pharmacies where it can be difficult to maintain social distance. The recommendations were upgraded because recent studies have shown that people with COVID-19 are contagious several days before they get sick, and a significant number of people who get COVID-19 never develop any symptoms but can still spread the virus.

The CDC recommends that residents use "simple cloth face coverings."

"Cloth face coverings fashioned from household items or made at home from common materials at low cost can be used as an additional, voluntary public health measure," the website states. "The cloth face coverings recommended are not surgical masks or N-95 respirators. Those are critical supplies that must continue to be reserved for healthcare workers and other medical first responders, as recommended by current CDC guidance."

Local health officials believe a surge of COVID-19 cases could still hit Southwest Michigan in the coming days.

See **MONEY**, page B2

BH to review $15M water, sewer project

By LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writer

BENTON HARBOR — Benton Harbor city commissioners are taking a second look at the almost $15 million water and sewer infrastructure project they approved in January.

Commissioners discussed how the project could be broken apart to make it more affordable, during a special meeting Wednesday with Chris Cook, president of Abonmarche, the city's engineering firm.

Cook said he and City Manager Ellis Mitchell plan to present commissioners with options at a future special meeting. Part of the problem is that the city has a cash crunch because water and sewer rates haven't been raised since at least 2013.

In addition, commissioners met with state officials from the Department of Environment, Great Lakes & Energy (EGLE) to discuss how the city can fix several problems at the water plant that were found during sanitary surveys done in 2015 and 2018. Commissioners signed an Administrative Consent Order with EGLE to fix 13 items. Some were fixed, but the city has received four extensions because staff have been unable to meet the deadlines.

State officials and Mitchell plan to negotiate a new ACO with realistic deadlines that will be brought back to commissioners for review.

Contact: lwrege@TheHP.com, 932-0361, Twitter: @HPWrege

Ask a Cop

STEVE NEUBECKER
St. Joseph
Public Safety Director

It's still OK to practice student driving

My teenager is supposed to get her driver's license on her 16th birthday next month. I realize that might not happen in May, but she will get it as soon as this order is lifted. With the stay-at-home order, can we take her driving to get her driving hours completed?

Kelly, St. Joseph

Kelly,

As always I appreciate you taking the time to inquire about this issue. I'd just like to start by clarifying that we as police officers, will not be conducting traffic stops on vehicles for the sole purpose of ensuring that you are complying with the stay-at-home order. If you are stopped by a police officer for another reason we will inquire about the purpose of your trip.

The goal of the executive stay-at-home order is to prevent the spread of the COVID-19 virus from person to person. Assuming that you and your daughter are already "quarantining" within the same household, I see no issue with taking your daughter out to complete her required driving hours. I'd simply recommend that when you and your daughter are out driving to keep with you some paperwork that outlines the reason for your trip (i.e. hours log etc.) to present to a police officer upon request.

I hope this answers your question and if you have any other questions feel free to inquire with our police department at any time.

Send in your questions about the law; get an answer from those who enforce it. Email your question to AskACop@TheHP.com and it may be featured in an article.

BERRIEN COUNTY TRIAL COURT

Sentences

St. Joseph

Drugs

Almon J. Lee, 36, of High Street, Benton Harbor, two concurrent terms of 46 months to 40 years in prison, credit for 125 days served, and $266 in costs for two counts of delivery/manufacture of narcotics, less than 50 grams cocaine, second offense, between Nov. 12 and Dec. 3, 2019, in Benton Harbor.

Kaliphe K. Poole, 28, of Broadway Avenue, Benton Harbor, 23 months to 20 years in prison, credit for 77 days served, and $198 in costs for delivery/manufacture of narcotics, less than 50 grams cocaine; and a concurrent term of 23 months to 5 years for possession of a firearm by a felon between Nov. 26, 2019, and Jan. 21, 2020, in Benton Harbor.

James O. Blackwell, 58, of Lake Street, Berrien Center, 23 months to 20 years in prison, credit for 111

See **SENTENCES**, page B2

IN BRIEF

Ex-Lakeshore basketball player to transfer

Lakeshore graduate and Michigan State basketball player Braden Burke has entered the NCAA transfer portal, according to the Detroit Free Press.

Burke, a redshirt junior walk-on, played in 17 games as a Spartan.

He began his college basketball career in the 2016-17 season for Robert Morris. He then transferred to MSU and sat our the 2017-18 season.

Burke averaged 0.4 points and 0.2 rebounds a game over his two seasons at MSU.

As a graduate transfer, he will have immediate eligibility. Burke helped lead Lakeshore to the 2016 Class B state finals, where the Lancers lost to Detroit Henry Ford.

STRAIN

From page B1

in each other's space all the time, is perhaps not the best combination for romance, the surveyors concluded.

GearHungry.com offers the following tips for making your togetherness experience healthier and more positive:

■ If working with your spouse or significant other in close quarters, use headphones. This will allow both of you to get through your to-do list and stay focused without having the other person distract you.

■ Learn a new hobby together. Now is the perfect time to maximize bonding through activities such as cooking together or learning a new language.

■ Spend at least an hour per day on some sort of exercise routine.

■ Ease additional stress by keeping your home neat and tidy by splitting up the household chores.

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, twitter@hpswidwa

VIOLENCE

From page B1

County.

He said the 12 complaints in the first nine days of April might be attributed to stress on families as they altered their spring break vacation plans, or people staying indoors more.

"This is something the Berrien County Sheriff's Office is monitoring," Boyce said.

Salena Jonjevic is a supervisor at the Cora Lamping Center, which helps survivors of domestic abuse in Berrien County.

She said the center has not seen an increase in calls, but, "We're prepared for an increase."

She said that while calls have not increased, "I'm not saying abuse isn't happening. Right now, with the stay home order, people have a decreased ability to make calls, and the opportunity to get away for help is limited."

The Cora Lamping Center 24-hour-a-day crisis line phone number is 925-9500.

Melanie Hooker is the executive director of the Van Buren County Domestic Violence Coalition. Two weeks ago, she said she was surprised that calls had not increased, and she predicted they would. That prediction has proven to be correct, and Hooker is concerned.

She said normally, the average number of personal protection order requests sent to the court is three. She said that over the past week, five such orders were sent to the court, and an additional three packets were sent to people requesting them.

Further, she said, the court typically deals with an average of five personal protection order violations over the course of a year.

"In the last two weeks we've had four PPO violations on the court docket," she said. "People think police aren't going to do anything about it. They think police aren't going to arrest people right now. That is a total myth. Police are making arrests."

Hooker said several factors related to the coronavirus outbreak are likely contributing to the uptick in domestic violence. People, already afraid about the virus, are together more in confined spaces, working from home, experiencing financial strain and possibly drinking more alcohol, she said.

"We've had nice days, so people are cooking out, and that often means drinking beer. It's only going to get worse. I'm scared somebody's going to get seriously hurt or killed," Hooker said.

Another factor, she said, is mental health.

"There's people who have a mental health issue and they function well as long as they are in a routine," she said.

Break that routine and trouble could ensue. Mental health problems may surface, and some people will turn to alcohol to self-medicate.

"I want people to remember that we're here. We're not closed. If someone needs help they should call us. The number is 269-655-9008," Hooker said.

She and Jonjevic said as people become more stressed, getting outdoors can help.

"If things get tense, try to diffuse the situation. Get out for a walk," Hooker said.

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, twitter@hpswidwa

@Herald Palladium

Follow us on Twitter!

MONEY

From page B1

The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, which manages the CDBG money, encourages cities to develop plans for the money that "prioritize the unique needs of low- and moderate-income persons and the development of partnerships between all levels of government and the private for-profit and nonprofit sectors."

Contact: lwrege@TheHP.com, 932-0361, Twitter: @HPWrege

SENTENCES

From page B1

days served, and $198 in costs for delivery/manufacture of narcotics, less than 50 grams cocaine, Dec. 1, 2019, in Benton Harbor.

Tampering with tether

Devin D. Smith, 30, of Ogden Street, Benton Harbor, 47 days in jail, credit for 47 days served, and $198 in costs for tampering with an electronic device, a jail tether, Dec. 6, 2019, in Benton Harbor.

Larceny

Dezmen A. Johnson, 18, of River Terrace Drive, Benton Harbor, 46 days in jail, credit for 46 days served, $1,498 in fines and costs and 18 months probation for attempted larceny in a building March 11, 2019, in Benton Harbor.

Fleeing/resisting police

Adrian C. Pringle, 30, of West Bernard Street, Hartford, 126 days in jail, credit for 126 days served, and $198 in costs for assaulting/resisting and obstructing police April 9, 2019, in Benton Township.

Fraud

Devin D. Smith, 30, of Ogden Street, Benton Harbor, two concurrent terms of 23 months to 5 years in prison, credit for 78 days served, $266 in costs and $332 in restitution for organized retail crime and first-degree retail fraud Nov. 6, 2019, at CVS in St. Joseph.

Niles

Fleeing/resisting police

Robert E. Jones, 54, of South Fourth Street, Niles, 19 months to 5 years in prison, credit for 60 days served, $198 in costs and $2,200 in restitution for third degree fleeing police; and a concurrent term of 60 days and $198 in costs for assaulting/resisting and obstructing Berrien County Sheriff's Deputy Jonathan Cluster Feb. 6 in Niles Township.

Uttering/publishing

Leo E. Conkin III, 34, of South Lake Road, Berrien Center, 27 days in jail, credit for 27 days served, $498 in costs, $647 in restitution and 2 years probation for attempted uttering and publishing a false, forged, altered or counterfeit record, a check, Jan. 15 in Berrien Springs.

Berrien County Veterans Services
701 Main Street • St. Joseph, MI 49085
(269) 983-7111 Ext. 8224
www.berriencounty.org/veterans

When it comes to Veterans Benefits, many veterans and dependents don't know what they don't know. Nationwide, less than 10% of those eligible apply. Let us help to educate and navigate you thru the maze of what is available from discharge to death. Here are some of the many benefits:

★ Disability Compensation benefits for prior conditions, diseases or injuries that occurred in service or many years later as a result of service (e.g. Agent Orange Exposure, Camp Lejeune Contaminated Water, Post Traumatic Stress Disorder – combat or personal trauma) to name a few.

★ PTSD Counselors from the South Bend Vet Center that comes to Berrien County twice a week.

★ Non-Service Connected Veterans Pension and Survivors Pension benefits (House Bound as well as Aid and Attendance) for low income veterans over age 65 or prior to age 65 that are disabled and have at least one day of wartime service (additional means tested restrictions apply).

★ Free transportation at designated stops for veterans enrolled in the VA Health Benefits Program to the VA Medical Center in Battle Creek and the VA Health Care Center in Mishawaka.

★ Financial assistance thru the Michigan Veterans Trust Fund for wartime veterans or peacetime veterans who earned an expeditionary medal (additional means tested restrictions apply).

★ Free financial coaching from an Accredited Financial Counselor and Financial Fitness Coach Counselor as well as ongoing Dave Ramsey's Financial Peace University Military Edition classes.

★ Please read our weekly "The Veterans Voice" article in MailMax Newspaper to learn more about additional benefits for veterans and dependents. Let us be of service to you for your service.

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BEETLE BAILEY

I'M SORRY, SIR, DOGS AREN'T ALLOWED IN THIS RESTAURANT
HE'S AN ASSISTANCE DOG
OH, THAT'S ALLOWED
HE TURNS THE PAGES FOR ME
AND I DECIDE WHAT WE EAT
Menu
GREG + MORT WALKER
4-11
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BLONDIE

HONEY, WHICH SOUNDS LIKE THE MOST FUN FOR A SATURDAY MORNING?
PLAYING GOLF WITH HERB OR GOING BOWLING WITH HERB?
THAT DOESN'T LOOK LIKE SATURDAY MORNING FUN TO ME!
I DIDN'T EVEN KNOW IT WAS AN OPTION
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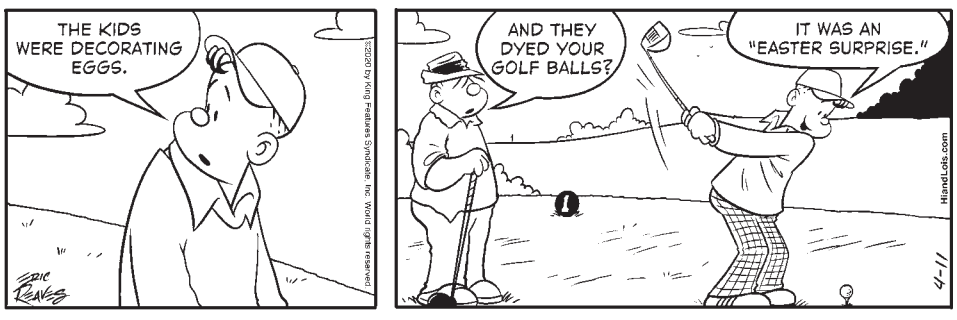
4-11
www.Blondie.com

HI & LOIS


THE KIDS WERE DECORATING EGGS.
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ERIC REEVES
AND THEY DYED YOUR GOLF BALLS?
IT WAS AN "EASTER SURPRISE."
HiandLois.com
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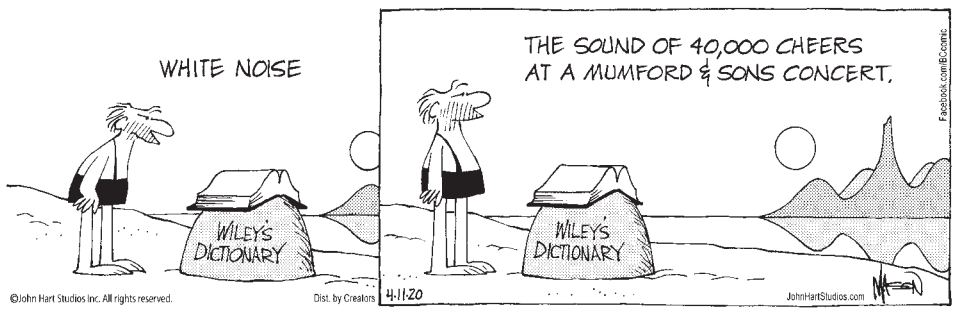
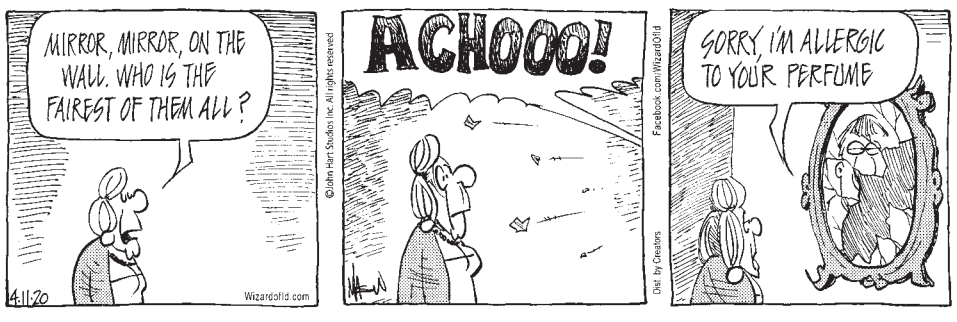
BC



WIZARD OF ID


MIRROR, MIRROR, ON THE WALL. WHO IS THE FAIREST OF THEM ALL?
ACHOOO!
SORRY, I'M ALLERGIC TO YOUR PERFUME
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Facebook.com/WizardOfId
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DILBERT

I'VE CONTACTED MY LAWYER TO SUE YOU FOR YOUR SEXIST JOKES.
YOUR HUMOR IS NOT FUNNY, AND THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE IT IS ILLEGAL.
I JUST LEARNED THAT I AM CRIMINALLY UNFUNNY.
YOU'RE ALWAYS THE LAST TO KNOW.
DILBERT.COM @SCOTTADAMSSAYS
4-11-20 2020 Scott Adams, Inc./Dist. by Andrews McMeel

GARFIELD

FORT KNOX

JOEY, I GAVE CARL THE RABBIT TO THE NEIGHBORS.
IT'S FOR THE BEST, MOM.
I KNOW... MY JET-SETTING LIFESTYLE COULDN'T HANDLE A PET RABBIT.
WON'T YOU MISS IT?
OF COURSE, BUT I'VE TAKEN MEASURES TO HELP ME GET OVER IT.
HOW?
GoComics.com/FortKnox
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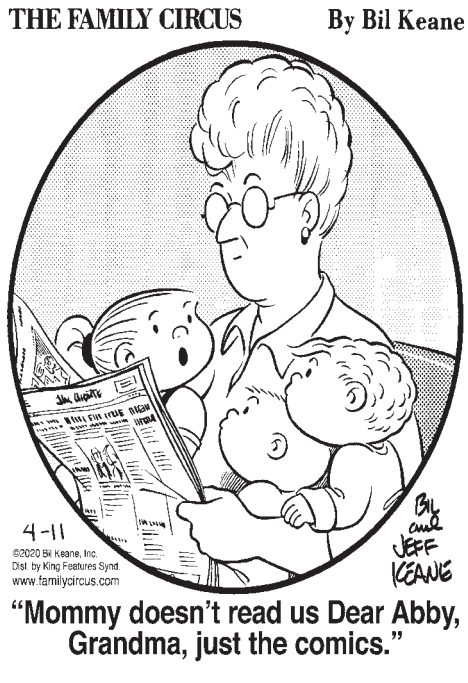
4-11-20

PICKLES

YOU'VE BEEN WASHING YOUR FACE A LONG TIME, NELSON.
I'M TRYING TO WASH MY FRECKLES OFF. I HATE 'EM!
YOU DON'T WANT TO WASH THEM OFF! DON'T YOU KNOW THAT FRECKLES ARE WHERE THE ANGELS KISSED YOU WHILE YOU WERE ASLEEP?
...AND PLEASE TELL YOUR ANGELS TO KNOCK OFF THE KISSING.
4/11/20
BRIAN CRANE

FAMILY CIRCUS



DENNIS THE MENACE

BABY BLUES

Get to know your new carpet ste
First locate the upper handle part A and to the beneath part B and twist until it lo
Clean pour water into lake containment water will suction into empty containm underbottom side.
Trigger the action on the handle for sp Untrigger to cease.
K'CHEW!
GESUNDHEIT.
SNIF!
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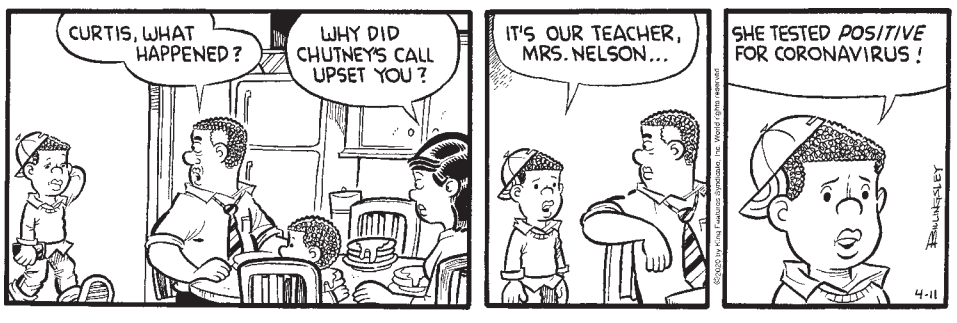
HILBURN & SCOTT

CURTIS


CURTIS, WHAT HAPPENED?
WHY DID CHUTNEY'S CALL UPSET YOU?
IT'S OUR TEACHER, MRS. NELSON...
SHE TESTED POSITIVE FOR CORONAVIRUS!
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4-11

ZITS

ARE YOU MAD AT ME, SARA?
YUH!
I TEXTED YOU THREE HEARTS, A KISSY FACE AND A RAINBOW, AND YOU SENT ME A STUPID THUMBS-UP!
DUDE, ARE WE JAMMING AFTER SCHOOL?
CAN'T. I'M GOING TO EMOJI COUNSELING.
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zitscomics.com

HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

I'M READING ANOTHER BOOK!
IT'S A MYSTERY!
YEAH, I WAS WONDERING WHY MYSELF!
4-11
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MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

4/11
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DURING CHRISTMAS, I HAVE A FULL-TIME JOB JUST SITTING ON A SHELF.

MUTTS

SALLY FORTH

I KNOW I SHOULD BE INVOLVED IN MORE ACTIVITIES LIKE APPARENTLY ALL MY FRIENDS ARE. BUT IT'S TOO LATE IN THE SCHOOL YEAR, SO NOW I HAVE TO THINK SUMMER ACTIVITIES...
BUT WHAT IF WE GO ON A BIG FAMILY TRIP LIKE WE DO EVERY SUMMER?
LIKE, I DON'T KNOW, JUST THINKING, DISNEY'S STAR WARS GALAXY'S EDGE, WHERE THEY FINALLY OPENED THE RISE OF THE RESISTANCE RIDE.
I'M SENSING YOUR TRUE INTENTION BEHIND THIS TALK OF OURS, HIL.
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4-11
KEEFE

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Ben Spencer
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hp OUTDOORS

Submitting hunting or fishing photos

Have a behemoth buck, a tremendous turkey or super-sized salmon? Please submit photos to sports@TheHP.com.

Your photo must be in focus, all persons in the photo must be identified, and the general location of the hunt must be provided (for example, 10-point buck shot in Benton Township, black bear shot near Munising, Mich., etc.)

Great horned owls fond of Baroda nest

Great horned owls have returned to a nest in Baroda that has been in used over the course of the last several nesting seasons.

Brad Anderson located the active nest on April 1 and took some photos. Anderson said the nest is located among a group of tall trees east of the Baroda City Mill building on Lemon Creek Road.

In Anderson's photo we can see one adult great horned owl on the nest. It is not known if the egg, or eggs, have already hatched.

Young great horned owls are cared for by both parents until late fall or early winter when they disperse. Adult great horned owls pair bond for life and may reuse the same nest for several years, known as site fidelity.

Jonathan Wuepper
Southwest Michigan Wildlife

Much of Southwest Michigan is open farmland with woodlots interspersed here and there, which is prime habitat for the great horned owl. The species can be found throughout Michigan but is more common in the southern Lower Peninsula.

The month of April is the time when yellow-bellied sapsuckers can be commonly found in our area as they work their way to Canada and northern Michigan, where they will spend the summer. On April 1, Jim Ollis of Lincoln Township provided a photo of a sapsucker in action in his Lincoln Township backyard.

This aptly-named woodpecker has been documented to drill for sap from over 200 species of native trees. Sapsuckers also eat insects that have been attracted to the sap holes.

Sapsuckers prefer to excavate nest holes in aspen trees, which are more common to our north. The species is most common here in April, but by May local numbers dwindle. Yellow-bellied sapsuckers located after May 20 are noteworthy. Southbound migrants arrive as early as late August, but by October most have moved to the southern U.S. A few overwinter locally.

The brown thrasher is a songbird that arrives in Southwest Michigan in early April and spends the summer nesting season here before departing in September. I received several reports of the species last week, including one photographed on April 6 in the backyard of Dick Schinkel of Oronoko Township.

Brown thrashers prefer semi-open areas and forest edges, and avoid large tracts of unbroken forest. They are more common in southern Michigan where this type of habitat is abundant.

Photo provided / Brad Anderson

A great horned owl sits in its nest in Baroda on April 1.

Photo provided / Kathy Burch

A golden-crowned kinglet is stunned after hitting a window at the Edgewater Center in St. Joseph on April 5.

On April 5, a golden-crowned kinglet hit the window of Edgewater Center in St. Joseph, and while stunned, was photographed by Kathy Burch before regaining its senses and resuming its northward migration.

Gary Kunkel of Royalton Township reported an exceedingly early male rose-breasted grosbeak in his yard on April 2. Kunkel also discovered an eastern bluebird egg in a nest box on April 1, and a second egg the next day.

On March 31, Claire Gillespie of St. Joseph sent me a video of a bald eagle, taken on the grounds of Berrien Hills Golf Club, not far from where a pair of eagles nested last year. American toads have emerged from winter hibernation last week, as I have heard calls of male toads during recent warm nights, coming from ponds and other wetland areas. Males emit a trill-like call lasting from 10 to 30 seconds.

Jonathan Wuepper is an area naturalist. Report your sightings to him at wuepperj@gmail.com.

Photo provided / Dick Schinkel

A brown thrasher in the backyard of Dick Schinckel of Oronoko Township on April 6.

Photo provided / Jim Ollis

A yellow-bellied sapsucker checks out a tree in the Lincoln Township backyard of Jim Ollis on April 1.

Dogs, kayaks and social distancing

Kayaks fill the bill for Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's most recent order concerning boating.

Earlier this week, she said that boating is OK as long as you observe proper social distancing. That means if you're going out in your boat, you can only take along members of your household.

Dave Mull

My buddy and fellow outdoor writer Bob Gwizdz and I took advantage of this week's beautiful weather and met at a couple of different lakes. I had two Old Town kayaks on my trailer and loaned him the pedal drive PDL model. I took the paddle-powered Predator 13 and put Gus the miniature weiner dog mix in with me both days.

Monday we met at a lake with water as clear as Aquafina, taking great care to maintain the 6-foot distance between us. It was Bob's first time fishing from a kayak, and his main complaint (not that he really complained) was that he's used to standing while fishing. Otherwise, he was comfortable.

My main complaint was that I haven't spent nearly enough time fishing from a paddle-powered kayak. My throbbing shoulder joints have kept me awake at night and as I sit and write this, my back muscles ping threads of pain across my shoulder blades.

To make a long story short, the lake we fished near Paw Paw was not producing fish like it had the day before for me and I caught the only bass.

The day before, Sunday, I'd decided to check that lake out before the trip with Bob, ready to choose a different lake if the catching was lackluster. While working along the drop-off, I noticed a white golden retriever wading knee deep, scanning the shallow water.

Photo provided / Thomas Carney

Outdoor writer Bob Gwizdz poses with a largemouth he caught Wednesday during his second-ever kayak fishing trip.

Her mistress was on the lawn in front of a nice house, cleaning up weeds.

"What's your golden searching for?" I asked.

"Fish. You might as well forget about catching any yourself," the lady said with a laugh. "She catches all of them." I'd only caught two small bass before I encountered the dog chasing fish near shore. Following her lead and casting right up to the bank in mere inches of water I soon caught a 14-inch largemouth, quickly releasing it. I pedaled the kayak on down the lake, out of sight from the dog and owner, continuing to fish shallow and caught several more. On the way back towards the ramp, the white dog was still at it and the lady had been joined by a guy, probably her husband. When I asked if their dog had caught any, the fellow replied that he hadn't noticed any success, but that "she does this all day every day."

Just about then, I felt a tap on the little Ned rig worm I'd cast, set the hook and was into the biggest fish of the day – 16 inches long. When I pulled the fish out of the net, the dog stopped her own efforts and stared at me and the fish. Her tail was down and motionless, and the typical golden retriever smile wasn't there.

"Aw mister," her glum look seemed to say. "I've been fishing here all my life and haven't ever caught one that big. D-a-a-ang."

The two kayaks, Gus the weiner dog and I met up with Bob again Wednesday afternoon, this time at a small lake near me that a bluegill fisherman had shown Bob a decade prior.

"My buddy used to say that when the buds appear on the trees, you can catch bluegills in inches of water," Bob had told me.

Buds were all over the trees so we targeted bluegills with Berkley Power Maggies, artificial lures that mimic real maggots and taste great to fish. Bob's bluegill expert preferred wiggly redworms, but live bait has been hard to come by during this societal shutdown.

Bob garnered a decent-sized bluegill almost immediately. I lasted 10 minutes watching a bobber, then switched to bass fishing. While I cast, Gus took a position on top of the bow's compartment lid, fascinated by a pair of mallards milling in the reeds near shore.

He took one misstep, and suddenly his toenails were scratching the slick front deck, trying to gain a grip on the hard plastic. "Kerploosh!" he was in the water.

This was the second time Gus had fallen out of a kayak, and he knew enough to swim down the kayak's side to where I could grab the handle on his Outward Hound PFD and pull him back aboard. Of course he had to climb on my lap before shaking off the cold water.

The lake turned out to be pretty good for bass, and I caught eight while Bob unsuccessfully continued bluegill fishing. Finally he switched to a bass lure and caught a largemouth before it was time to leave.

As long as we all continue to socially distance ourselves, fishing remains a great way to forget about the world's problems for a little while.

Outdoors columnist Dave Mull lives in Paw Paw. Write to him at dave.sportfish.mull@gmail.com.

Most DNR parks are open

From THE MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

To help slow the spread of the coronavirus and in accordance with Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's "Stay Home, Stay Safe" Executive Order, the Department of Natural Resources continues to monitor visitation and adherence to social-distancing requirements at DNR-managed facilities. This means continually assessing needed adjustments to services and closures that best protect visitors, staff and the local communities.

A vast majority of state parks and recreation areas, state-managed trails and boating access sites remain open to provide local opportunities to get outdoors; however, all locations have modified services and/or closed amenities.

Recently, Tippy Dam Recreation Area in Manistee County was closed until further notice due to high numbers of visitors, lack of improper social distancing and people traveling long distances to reach the park.

"Throughout the stay-at-home order, we've seen an influx of visitors at state parks, boating access sites and trails," said Ron Olson, chief of the DNR Parks and Recreation Division. "In order to continue to keep state parks and trails open, we expect everyone to follow effective social distancing practices, to not litter and not travel long distances to enjoy the outdoors.

"If concerns continue to build, the DNR will have to look at closing or further limiting access to our state-designated trails, state parks, boating access sites and other outdoor locations," he said.

As the COVID-19 pandemic evolves and additional information has become available to state, health and DNR officials, the following reminders and announcements are in place.

Do not litter. Please carry in, carry out

It's been reported by both visitors and staff that a significant amount of trash has been left in state parks and boating access sites and at trailheads. Because of limited staff and the need to minimize public contact, trash services have been reduced in DNR-managed locations to dumpsters in designated locations. Visitors are asked to help protect our natural resources and bring a trash bag and "carry in, carry out" their trash and recyclables.

Social-distancing offenses could result in fines

The Department of Health and Human Services issued an emergency order April 2 that sets a civil penalty of up to $1,000 for not complying with executive orders banning gatherings and nonessential businesses, including social distancing (not keeping at least 6 feet between individuals) and a process for referral to licensing agencies for violations of Executive Orders 2020-11, 2020-20 and 2020-21. Criminal penalties for violation will remain an option for prosecutors.

Motorized and nonmotorized trails open for local visitors only

Even though the "Stay Home, Stay Safe" Executive Order allows for engagement in outdoor activities, the DNR is asking visitors to stay local and not travel far distances to hike, run, bicycle or ride an ORV. Under the order, extensive travel is permitted only for essential needs.

DTE Energy Foundation Trail parking lot closures

The two primary parking lots for Waterloo Recreation Area's DTE Energy Foundation Trail are closed due to reports of people gathering at trailheads and mountain biking trails and not adhering to social-distancing requirements. The parking lots are located on Cassidy Road and M-52 in Chelsea. The trail remains open for local use, and visitors should park in alternative and appropriate lots. There is no parking along M-52, and people are encouraged to bike into the trails to avoid crowding at other parking spots.

hp FOCUS

Michigan Works! Berrien, Cass, Van Buren is open by appointment only.

For more information or to schedule an appointment:
(269) 927-1799 | www.miworks.org

MICHIGAN WORKS! Berrien • Cass • Van Buren

Building community through pancakes

Pancakes.

That's what comes to mind every year as the calendar flips to April. Pancakes are just as much a rite to spring as baseball or daffodils or fresh-cut grass.

Andy Steinke

Every year, right around Easter, the Sodus Township Fire Department would wheel out its large directional arrow to the corner of Naomi and Pipestone roads. The message on its letter board was brief but effective: "Pancake breakfast, 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday."

The food was served inside the four-bay firehouse, which meant the firetrucks were lined up outside for all the kids – big and small – to gawk at.

The generous hours meant you could wake up early and catch a meal before church, if you could find a table, or you could enjoy your short stack after service.

It was always members of the volunteer department sitting at the door accepting payment, bringing trays of juice to tables, taking orders and manning the kitchen – all while in uniform.

The menu was simple. It also wasn't hard to read. Large signs with big numbers hung on the walls with seven or eight meal options offering different combinations of pancakes, sausage, eggs and bacon.

The people were the same every year, too – the ones eating the pancakes and the ones serving them. They were your friends, your neighbors and your family.

The annual pancake breakfasts weren't just a way for the department to raise money; they were a way for the department to build a sense of community.

Everyone knew where the fire station was: a stone's throw from the post office and kitty-corner from the town hall. It was where you signed up your son for baseball, and the last place you wanted to be when the whistle sounded at 5 p.m.

But this year, there will be no men in uniform, no firetrucks on display and no pancakes.

The breakfast is one of hundreds (thousands?) of events that have been canceled in Southwest Michigan due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

But the real loss isn't the pancakes, it's the people.

As we all sit at home hour after hour, day after day, week after week wondering when all this will end, we're reminded of how much we need and miss our friends, our family and our neighbors.

We're #inthistogether as the social media hashtag says. But I hope when all this is over, and life returns to normal, that people remember we're still "in this" together.

If you want that local restaurant or store to stay open, patronize it. If you want strong schools and reliable fire service, vote to support them. If you want nature trails to walk, consider a membership at a nature center. If you want Friday night concerts and art exhibits to view, support the arts. If you want stories and pictures of your children, friends and neighbors, buy a newspaper subscription.

This isn't my community, or your community. It's our community. Let's not forget that when life returns to normal.

Andy Steinke is features editor at The Herald-Palladium. Email him at asteinke@TheHP.com.

Photo provided / Holly Bemiss / AP

Erin Bried, at right, sews face masks with her daughters, Ellie, 9, at left, and Bea, 4. Bried is the author of "How to Sew a Button: And Other Nifty Things Your Grandmother Knew" and "How to Build a Fire: And Other Handy Things Your Grandfather Knew."

Forgotten household skills revived thanks to pandemic

By JULIA RUBIN
Associated Press

Mending clothes. Cutting hair. Fixing a squeaky door or a dripping faucet. Baking bread.

A generation or two ago, household skills like these were common, learned at home and at school. Then it became easier to toss things out rather than fix them, and quicker to call the professionals.

Now, in an unsettling era of staying at home and not knowing what will be available tomorrow, the old ways are being dusted off and relearned.

Since the coronavirus has shuttered many small businesses that do our work and supply our things, millions of people trying to stay home are driven by necessity – or boredom – to do more cooking, cleaning, fixing, grooming and other practical skills themselves.

"It's during uncertain times like these when we take stock of all the basic life skills we've forgotten, or never learned in the first place, because they sure could come in handy right about now," says Erin Bried, a magazine editor in Brooklyn and author of "How to Sew a Button: And Other Nifty Things Your Grandmother Knew."

In a dark and difficult time, it can be an emotional lift to find that you're more capable around the house than you thought.

"I accomplished something real today!" Maria Kernahan, a real estate agent and children's book author, said after installing a new thermostat herself in her Castle Park, Mich., house. She followed online advice to figure out the wiring in the old house. Her husband, meanwhile, has begun chopping wood.

"We're making this up as we go along," she said.

Bill Hughes, a business consultant in University Place, Wash., had to wash some shirts and didn't want to put them away wrinkled.

"When I was a graduate student, I would iron my own shirts to save some money. It was tedious and I looked forward to the day when I could afford to drop off my shirts to be cleaned," says Hughes, 59. "Since my dry cleaners is closed, I dusted off the iron and ironing board, turned on some Huey Lewis and the News, and went at it."

Janice Simonsen, who works in corporate communications in Philadelphia, helped sew masks for medical personnel, following instructions on a YouTube video.

"I haven't pulled my sewing machine out for many years. I never really had the time," she says. "Those junior high sewing classes kicked back in."

She plans to keep the machine out and try some projects, like pillow covers, that she's put off for years.

"It felt good to create something useful again," Simonsen says.

Yes, you can still order takeout in most places and call the plumber or electrician. But more people are trying to do that only when absolutely needed.

Hardware stores have seen high demand for home-repair and lawn tools.

See **SKILLS**, page C2

COVID-19 causes Medicare rule changes and waivers

Q What sort of changes have taken place with Medicare to help address COVID-19?

Sara Duris
Generations

A The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) have instituted a number of rule changes and temporary regulatory waivers to respond to the health care needs caused by the pandemic.

In an effort to put "patients before paperwork" CMS is extending reporting deadlines and suspending documentation requests that would take time away from patient care.

CMS is temporarily eliminating paperwork requirements and allowing clinicians to spend more time with patients. Medicare will now cover respiratory-related devices and equipment for any medical reason determined by clinicians so that patients can get the care they need. Previously Medicare only covered them under certain circumstances.

During the public health emergency, hospitals won't be required to have written policies on processes and visitation of patients who are in COVID-19 isolation. Hospitals also will have more time to provide patients with a copy of their medical record.

CMS is also building on prior action to expand reimbursement for telehealth services to Medicare beneficiaries by allowing for more than 80 additional services to be furnished via telehealth.

During the public health emergency, individuals can use interactive apps with audio and video capabilities to visit with their clinician. Providers also can evaluate beneficiaries who have audio phones only.

These temporary changes will ensure that patients have access to physicians and other providers while remaining safely at home.

CMS also is allowing telehealth to fulfill many face-to-face visit requirements for clinicians to see their patients in inpatient rehabilitation facilities, hospice and home health.

Finally, Medicare Part B will cover the test to see if you have COVID-19. This test is covered when your doctor or other health care provider orders it, if you got the test on or after Feb. 4, and if the provider submits the claim after April 1.

For the most up-to-date information, call 1-800-MEDICARE or visit www.medicare.gov.

Q Would Medicare call me about getting tested or vaccinated for COVID-19?

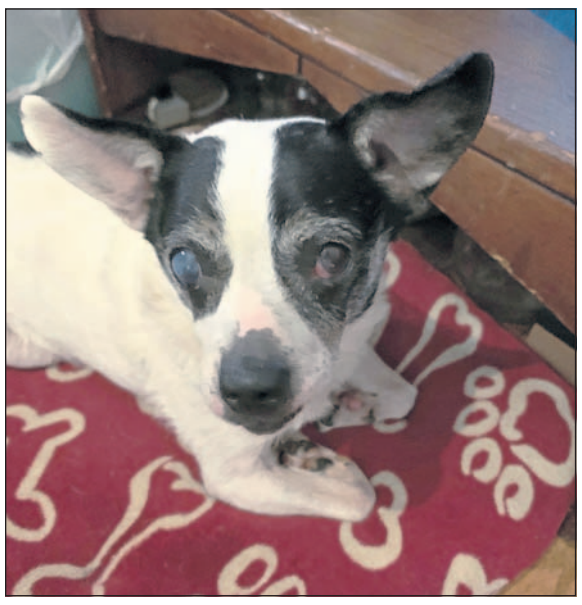
A There should be no reason that Medicare would be contacting individuals about getting tested or vaccinated.

Unfortunately, as public health emergencies such as this emerge, so do the scammers.

Remember that there currently is no FDA-approved vaccine for COVID-19 and, although there might be

See **GENERATIONS**, page C2

PET OF THE WEEK



Roxy is a cuddly Jack Russell terrier. This 8-year-old is fun-loving and playful. She enjoys the outdoors, exploring and soaking up the sun on nice days. Very good with cats and dogs, she is not a big barker. She is current on shots and heartworm negative. For more information, contact Seven Star Rescue at 588-0470, or apply for adoption online at www.sevenstarrescue.org.

ANNIVERSARY

Okon
50 years

Dennis and Elizabeth Okon of St. Joseph celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary on March 7 with a trip to Tanzania, Botswana, Zimbabwe and Zambia in Africa.

Okon and the former Elizabeth Baumann were married March 7, 1970, at St. Theodore Catholic Church in Westland, Mich.

Their children are Christine Okon-Waterhouse of St. Joseph, Jessica (Dan) Fette of Benton Harbor, Dennis (Adrienne) Okon Jr. of North Falmouth, Mass., and Alexander (Megan) Okon of New York. They have six grandchildren.

Dennis is retired from AM General, where he was director of financial systems. Liz is retired from Whirlpool Corp., where she was a sales training manager.

They have lived in St. Joseph for more than 38 years, and were involved in Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts when their children were young. They are avid golfers, and have been club members of Berrien Hills and Harbor Shores golf clubs.

During retirement, they have traveled to more than 34 countries and golfed on some very remote courses.

VOLUNTEERS

Help community members in need

The Southwest Michigan Community Action Agency helps those in our community who need assistance. SMCAA advocates for struggling individuals, providing them with a variety of programs and opportunities.

The agency is hosting a family food distribution drive-thru at its warehouse – 331 Miller St., Benton Harbor – on April 30. SMCAA anticipates assisting 300-500 in-need families, and need volunteers to assist.

SMCAA has partnered with Feeding America to provide a mobile food truck during the event. SMCAA staff and volunteers will follow strict COVID-19 guidelines while interacting with these families.

For more information, or to sign up, visit volunteer.uwsm.org.

Operation COVID Cheer – send seniors cheer

Meals on Wheels of Southwest Michigan and the Greater Niles Senior Center are asking for people to make and send cards to senior citizens.

Be creative and help cheer up someone who is lonely and potentially scared.

For more information, or to sign up, visit volunteer.uwsm.org.

Turn compassion into action

American Red Cross of Southwest Michigan is looking for volunteers for several opportunities, such as a Disaster Action Team members, who provide 24-hour emergency response to local disasters, ensuring that those affected have access to resources for basic necessities such as food, shelter and clothing.

The American Red Cross also is looking for blood drive volunteers in Berrien and Cass counties.

For more information, or to sign up, visit volunteer.uwsm.org.

COVID-19 standby volunteers needed

United Way of Southwest Michigan is looking for volunteers who are willing and able to help in a variety of ways during the COVID-19 crisis. Volunteers may be needed to help with tasks such as food distribution, cleaning and laundry.

At this time, this opportunity is an "on-call" opportunity, meaning volunteers will only be contacted if a specific need arises.

If you are willing and able to volunteer for tasks such as these, sign up volunteer.uwsm.org.

United Way of Southwest Michigan

The Herald-Palladium, in conjunction with the United Way of Southwest Michigan, publishes volunteer opportunities every Saturday.

To view all current listings, please visit United Way of Southwest Michigan's volunteer page at **uwsm.org/volunteer.**

Give. Advocate. Volunteer.

United Way of Southwest Michigan mobilizes the caring power of communities to fight for the health, education and financial stability of every person. Volunteering your time and talent to create lasting solutions that improve life for everyone is an important part in United Way accomplishing this work. Volunteer today and join the fight, by visiting www.uwsm.org.

Fighting the enemy who kills body and soul

Gregory Owen
Insights

It's easy to get distracted from our purpose in life, and even more so with the ongoing pandemic. COVID-19 is the only subject we hear about.

The Orthodox Church celebrates Pascha, or Easter, next week. Western Christians celebrate Sunday.

Christ is risen from the dead. This is the main proclamation of the Christian faith. It forms the heart of the church's preaching, worship and spiritual life.

"... if Christ has not been raised, then our preaching is in vain and your faith is in vain," 1 Corinthians 15:14 tells us.

In the first sermon ever preached in the history of the Christian church, the Apostle Peter began his proclamation in the book of Acts: "Men of Israel, hear these words: Jesus of Nazareth, a man attested by God to you by miracles, wonders and signs, which God did through him in your midst, as you yourselves also know him, being delivered by the determined purpose and foreknowledge of God, you have taken by lawless hands, have crucified, and put to death; whom God raised up, having loosed the pains of death, because it was not possible that he should be held by it."

Jesus has the power to lay down his life, and the power to take it up again.

Everything in Scripture reveals that Jesus Christ has given his life voluntarily, that he has laid it down fully, that he has offered it whole and without reservation to God – who then gave it back in his resurrection from the dead.

As followers of Christ, we voluntarily lay down our lives for our brothers and sisters to receive it back again from God in the resurrection.

The Orthodox Church believes in Christ's real death and his actual resurrection. Resurrection, however, does not simply mean bodily resuscitation.

Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead after four days. But afterward Lazarus was still looking forward to being resurrected with Christ.

A heart inside the body of a person can be stopped and started again. That is not what we mean by resurrection. We must die before we die so we can live now and after we die.

After Christ's resurrection from the dead, he was different than he was before. The Gospel doesn't say the angel moved the stone from the tomb to let Jesus out. The angel moved the stone to reveal that Jesus was no longer there.

In his resurrection, Jesus is in a new and glorious form. He appears in different places immediately. He is difficult to recognize. He eats and drinks to show he is not a ghost. He allows himself to be touched. And yet he appears in the midst of disciples, "the doors being shut." And he "vanishes out of their sight."

Christ indeed is risen, but his resurrected humanity is full of life and divinity. Our Lord endured death. We must be willing to follow him to be transformed.

So it is with the resurrection of the dead: What is sown is perishable, what is raised is imperishable. It is sown in dishonor; it is raised in glory. It is sown in weakness; it is raised in power. It is sown a physical body; it is raised a spiritual body.

Our God is love incarnate. Our God is not the author of sin or of death. He is the author of life. God does not send a plague to punish anyone, least of all "those people." He desires all people to be saved.

He allows struggles out of concern and compassion for our salvation – not to punish, but to say "wake up, it's later than you think." This world is passing away, and the field is ripe for the harvest.

By God's grace we will get past this virus, and science will serve our society for good. This is because people are cooperating with God to serve and work long hours to put plans in place to combat this disease. But sin and death are only vanquished when it is no longer I who live.

In every war, there are victims and survivors. We see this truth in the war against the coronavirus. The "enemy" is real. How each confronts the enemy, and how prepared he is, is up to each person.

Let us take this time to prepare to fight against the enemy who is able to kill not only the body, but the soul as well. Stay on guard, especially when our world is lulled back into an attitude of complacency.

Pray for discernment and for enlightenment so as not to fall into temptation. Follow the example of the righteous men and women of God: "If anyone desires to come after me, let him deny himself, take up his cross and follow me" (Matthew 16:24).

Fear not little flock. Be at peace.

Today's Insights was written by Gregory Owen the priest at St. Joseph Orthodox Church in Baroda. Insights is written by area clergy to give different viewpoints on a variety of topics. It is published each Saturday in cooperation with the Berrien County Association of Churches. The views expressed by the author do not necessarily reflect the views of member churches.

SKILLS

From page C1

Social media feeds everywhere are full of posts from newbies planting vegetable gardens, giving themselves haircuts and baking bread.

Especially sourdough. Lots of sourdough.

YouTube has seen a spike of more than 100 percent in average daily views of videos with "Cook with Me" in the title since March 15 compared to the rest of the year, said spokeswoman Veronica Navarrete.

"We're seeing this trend across several verticals," including cleaning, she said.

For her book, Bried interviewed women who had lived through the Great Depression and imparted lessons on how to make do and get by.

"I feel a new, closer connection to all of their stories now," she says. "It was a difficult time, and it left its mark on all of them. I think this pandemic, too, will leave its mark on us much in the same way. It's caused us all to halt our lives and reevaluate, maybe for the first time, what is truly important and what we're equipped to handle."

Jeanne Huntley, who taught high school home economics for 35 years in Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario, thinks society lost something important when schools phased out home economics and shop classes in favor of computer science, robotics and STEM.

"A lot of younger people have been brought up in a consumer society – 'You don't fix things, you replace things,'" she says. "Parents are busy, too, and there's not a lot of time to pass on those skills. But knowing you can make things and fix things gives us a sense of confidence in ourselves."

This is not new for everyone. There's always been a countercurrent of people yearning to get back to basics.

The DIY movement has blossomed in recent years, and long before the coronavirus, "urban homesteaders" experimented with backyard chickens, homemade dyes, wooden toys and organic food.

Concerns over climate change have kickstarted a strong movement toward buying fewer things and leaving a lighter footprint on the environment: "Reduce, reuse, recycle."

Now, in a time of feared shortages and limited mobility, this emphasis on self-sufficiency is going wider.

Sharon Bowers, co-author with her husband, David, of a book about life skills called "The Useful Book," embraces the trend. But she cautions people to be smart – and check out books and YouTube videos before plunging in.

"I'm urging you to boldly go and try something new, but not something that you know is way outside your ability. ... You could probably wire a lamp, but don't mess around with the circuit board in your house," she says. "If you make a mess – assuming you don't break something you really need – you can always call the professionals when we're out the other side."

Even the Bowerses, fix-it pros who live outside Dublin, Ireland, with their two teenage sons, "have a plumbing problem that's complicated" to deal with. "And," she says, "we're just going to have to wait."

GENERATIONS

From page C1

treatments for symptoms, there is no "cure."

Scammers often use fear-based tactics to convince people that a vaccine or cure is now being offered if they "act right away."

Additionally, while the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and other public health officials might contact you if they believe you may have been exposed to the virus, insurance entities would have no reason to do so.

Any calls coming in about COVID-19 in which the caller is trying to get personal, insurance or financial information from you are suspicious and you should just hang up.

The best advice is to follow the instructions of state and local government for any actions that you should be taking in response to the pandemic. If you feel you are experiencing symptoms, contact your personal physician or one of the various health info lines for Berrien, Cass or Van Buren counties.

Our Info Line for Aging and Disability continues to be staffed from 8 a.m.-5 p.m. Mondays to Fridays, and any voicemails left are answered as soon as possible.

Sara Duris is community information liaison of Region IV Area Agency on Aging in Southwest Michigan. Questions on age or independence services? Call the Info-Line for Aging and Disability at 800-654-2810 or visit www.areaagencyonaging.org. The Generations column appears each Saturday in The Herald-Palladium.

CHURCH NOTES

All activities at **The Old Rugged Cross Church**, 61041 Vermont St., Pokagon, are canceled until further notice. There will be no hymn sings, concerts, dedication or tours until the state's stay home order is lifted and it is once again safe for groups to gather.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, 2673 W. John Beers Road, Stevensville, has canceled all upcoming face-to-face services and activities. The church will continue to hold online services on its Facebook and YouTube pages. For more information, visit www.stpaulswels.org.

Zion St. Joe United Church of Christ, 3001 Veronica Drive, St. Joseph, will celebrate Easter at 10 a.m. Sunday on its Facebook page (Zion ChurchStJoe). The Rev. Adam Bohland will speak on "On the Road to Emmaus" based on Luke 24:13-48.

The Shore Church, 623 Church St., St. Joseph, will have a live Easter service at 10:30 a.m. Sunday on its Facebook page and its website, www.theshorechurchmichigan.com.

Michigan United Methodist Church Bishop David Alan Bard will lead a 45-minute virtual Easter service at 10 a.m. Sunday. Visit michiganumc.org/easter-2020 to participate.

Church Notes is a free listing, published Saturdays as a public service. Announcements are due by noon Wednesday. Late items will not be published. The editor reserves the right to edit for space and style. Incomplete information may not be published. First and last names should be furnished. Pictures submitted should include names of those shown. Pictures can be returned if accompanied by a self-addressed stamped envelope. Send items to: Church Notes, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085; or email to focus@TheHP.com. Items should include a daytime telephone number.

Worship Services
These area Congregations warmly invite you to attend
TRINITY LUTHERAN CHURCH & SCHOOL
LUTHERAN CHURCH-MISSOURI SYNOD
Trinity
Located at the corner of Court & Market Streets
Downtown St. Joseph - (269) 983-5000
www.trinitystjoe.org
ALL PUBLIC WORSHIP IS TEMPORARY SUSPENDED
Please join us on our Facebook page
At 10:00am for our Sunday Service
Sunday Worship Services
8:00 am & 10:30 am (Traditional)
9:15 am (Contemporary in Gym)
We Are A Stephen Ministry Church
The Chapel
AN EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH
4250 Washington Ave., St. Joseph
(269) 429-1041
April 12
Easter Sunday
Title:
"Why the Resurrection Changes Everything" 1 Corinthians 15:1 - 34
We will livestream at 9:00am and 10:35am.
www.YourPlacetoBelong.com
3001 Veronica Dr.
St. Joseph
269-983-7151
Zion St. Joe
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Join us on Facebook at Zion Church St Joe
this Easter Sunday,
April 12 at 10:00 a.m. to hear Rev. Adam Bohland speak on
"On the Road to Emmaus"
based on Luke 24: 13-48
Forward Thinking ~ Family Sized Church
Call 269.983.7151 for more information.
www.zionstjoe.com

RV wins LaSata's Spirit Tourney

LANSING — State Sen. Kim LaSata recently announced that River Valley High School has won the 2020 Southwest Michigan Spirit Tournament.

"It was a victory earned under very unusual circumstances with the coronavirus pandemic," LaSata, R-Bainbridge Township, said in a news release. "With students and faculty unable to attend school during much of the tournament, and with many parents and community members home as well, the tournament was a way for Southwest Michiganders to come together in a display of school and community spirit. I thank everyone who participated and look forward to another great tournament next year."

The Mustangs defeated Countryside Academy in the final round, which concluded April 3. The champions totaled 2,035 points in the final round of the tournament, earning them the title.

The tournament began March 2 with 31 area high schools competing in four brackets.

Participants competed on LaSata's Facebook page, and by voting in online polls.

ON CAMPUS

Dean's list

The following area student has been named to a university's dean's list

St. Lawrence University
Canton, N.Y.

Niles – Leo Romanetz

Honor's list

The following area students have been named to a university's honor's list.

Central Michigan University
Mount Pleasant, Mich.

Baroda – Hannah Carson, Sydney Melton, Alyssa Ruble

Benton Harbor – Amber Appel

Berrien Springs – Knox Machamire

Bridgman – Matthew Harazin, Carlee Harrington, Brooke Janes, Hannah Lundin, Abigail Price, Cory Russell, Amber Smith

Cassopolis – Andrew Benson

Coloma – Jenna Walter

Dowagiac – Justin Lyle, Holly Osborn

Edwardsburg – Lincoln Fleming, Adam Kozinski, Emma Nelson, Alison Strycker

Lawrence – Luke Westra

Lawton – Brianna Borowiak, Zoie Vanderbush

New Buffalo – Austin Pitchford

Niles – Abigail Fishbaugh, Li Goshorn, Garrett Green, Katherine Rutowicz, Leah Wetmore, Samuel Willis

Paw Paw – Elizabeth O'Connell, Grace Richmond

St. Joseph – Kendall Berry, London Cook, Grace James, Olivia McQueen, Laura Norrick, Damon Thompson, Sydney Wagner

South Haven – Brian Horan, Elliott Marovec, Shannon Murphy, Madison Wise

Stevensville – Bailey Goetz, Emily Grayam, Madison Knapp, Lydia Petee-Cummings, Justin Shepard, John Timmreck, Nicholas Wade, Stephane Wilkerson

Watervliet – Mikayla Lee, Kara Liles, Karlee Liles

Honor societies

The following area students have been named to a university's honor society.

Grand Valley State University
Allendale, Mich.

St. Joseph – Grace Batcho, Zoe Zaroff, Phi Kappa Phi

Western Michigan University
Kalamazoo, Mich.

Dowagiac – Kayla Cromer, Phi Kappa Phi

Photo provided

Spectrum Health Lakeland's Emergency Room Department employees receive a free lunch of appreciation from the Women's Service League and Jimmy John's for their efforts to keep the community healthy during the COVID-19 pandemic.

WSL assists community during pandemic

League donation collections provide meals to front-line COVID-19 workers, homebound seniors

ST. JOSEPH — Women's Service League members have been assisting the community in many ways recently in response to the mandatory shutdown of nonessential businesses during the COVID-19 pandemic.

WSL has been helping the people in the community who are on the front lines of the pandemic.

"That's what Women's Service League does ... we help people," WSL President Mary LoPresti said in a news release.

WSL set up a donation site through PayPal to accept donations at womens serviceleague.org/get-involved/sponsorships.

More than 100 meals – tacos, sub sandwiches, pizzas and more – have been delivered to medical workers and police enforcement on the job who are working to test, treat and protect those who have been affected by COVID-19, including:

- Benton Township Fire Department
- Benton Township Police Department
- Benton Harbor Public Safety Department
- Lincoln Township Police Department
- Spectrum Health Lakeland – central scheduling
- Spectrum Health Lakeland emergency rooms in Niles and St. Joseph
- Spectrum Health Lakeland – IT team
- Spectrum Health Lakeland – pathology
- St. Joseph post office

"It was a small gesture of appreciation – free lunch – but we were greeted with big smiles from these people who are continuing to work so we can stay home and be safe," WSL Secretary Amy Nolan, who has been coordinating the deliveries, said in the release.

"The effort was two-fold," she said, "as the donations to purchase the meals helped out the restaurants that are struggling and only being allowed to serve take-out and delivery, and also showed appreciation to the hospitals and police departments."

Some restaurants got involved, too. LakeHouse Restaurant offered a buy-one-get-one-free health care worker special, which allowed WSL to purchase more meals, and Jimmy John's in Niles donated a second round of sandwiches the following day to the Spectrum Health Lakeland emergency room when they saw what WSL was doing.

More deliveries are continuing to be scheduled.

WSL has partnered with Meals on Wheels of Southwest Michigan on service projects during the last year, and Meals on Wheels needed help making emergency, shelf-stable meals that are critical to its homebound clients.

Meals on Wheels needed canned goods like chicken, tuna, soup, vegetables, fruit, pasta, ravioli, macaroni and cheese, breakfast bars, instant oatmeal, peanut butter and crackers. So WSL used donations, from the online donations and from its members, to make deliveries to Meals on Wheels.

The need continues. To donate, visit womens serviceleague.org/get-involved/sponsorships.

Nonprofit organizations who want to be beneficiaries of a Women's Service League fundraiser, need volunteers, or would like to partner on a service project, can contact WSL community connections chairperson Allison Arend at allisonarend@gmail.com.

Foundation donates $25,000 to SW Mich. Cares Fund

The American Electric Power Foundation, on behalf of Indiana Michigan Power, recently donated $25,000 in emergency funds to the Southwest Michigan Cares Fund to help the community during the coronavirus pandemic.

"Our communities are facing serious impacts from this unprecedented pandemic," Joel Gebbie, AEP's senior vice president and chief nuclear officer, said in a news release. "It's important that the AEP Foundation, on behalf of Indiana Michigan Power does its part by joining with others to pool the much-needed resources that will help sustain families, businesses and nonprofits who may not otherwise be able to stay afloat."

In total, the AEP Foundation is donating $240,000 to support basic human needs like food, shelter and housing assistance across I&M's service territory.

Overall, the AEP Foundation will donate $1.5 million to communities AEP serves in 11 states.

"The AEP Foundation, on behalf of Indiana Michigan Power, has been a long-time partner of United Way, and its support helps us serve the community – now more than ever," United Way of Southwest Michigan President Anna Murphy said in the release. "As a major funder of the Southwest Michigan Cares fund, the AEP Foundation is assisting our many nonprofit organizations that are addressing the emerging basic needs in the region in this time of crisis."

The Southwest Michigan Cares Fund was established by the Berrien Community Foundation and the United Way of Southwest Michigan to be distributed among those most in need as a result of the coronavirus pandemic.

For more information, visit www.southwestmichigancares.org.

HOUSE OF THE WEEK

House boasts rooftop deck and courtyard

Open and relaxed, this modern house plan invites owners to step outside when the weather is nice. A rooftop deck and courtyard on the second level (plus an additional courtyard on the first level) add lots of outdoor living space.

The kitchen's open layout features a spacious island that's perfect for casual entertaining, while a walk-in pantry makes it easy to keep groceries organized. A loft on the second level could be used as a home office, study or hobby room.

To build this home, order a complete set of construction documents by calling 866-228-0193 or visit www.ePlans.com/collection/house-of-the-week. Enter the design number to locate the plan and view more images and details.

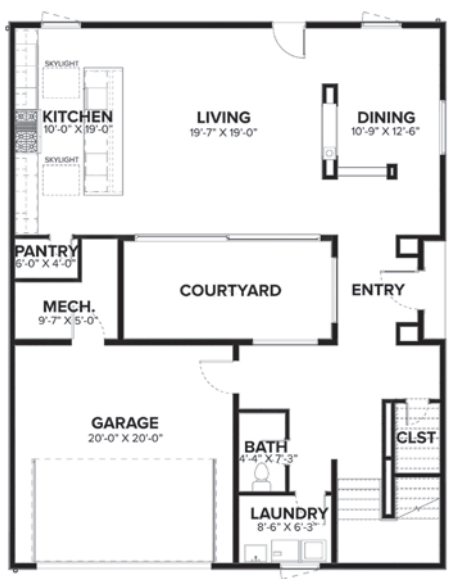
Visit the website to view previously featured plans, browse other specialty collections or search to find exactly what you want from more than 28,000 home designs. Most plans can be customized.

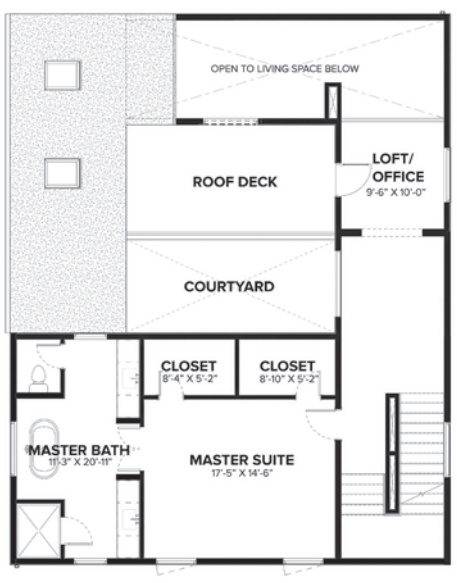
– www.ePlans.com

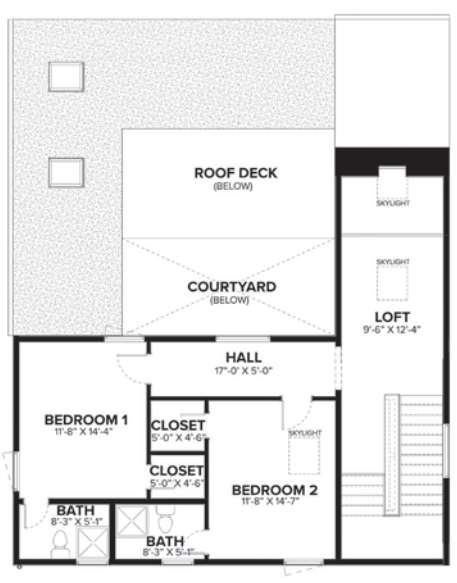
Photo provided / www.ePlans.com

Clean lines and a simple footprint deliver sleek curb appeal to this modern design. See more images online at www.ePlans.com/collection/house-of-the-week.

Design number: 1076-2
Bedrooms: 3
Baths: 3 1/2
Square footage: 2,574 square feet
Dimensions: 40-feet by 50-feet
Framing: 2-by-6







Virus changes math on taking Social Security early

Michelle Singletary

There's a point in your working career when Social Security, and the correct time to begin collecting it, becomes a question at the top of your list of retirement decisions.

For many people, the dilemma about when to start taking Social Security is now being influenced by the coronavirus pandemic.

Conventional advice is to wait until 70 to collect Social Security to maximize your benefits. But many seniors don't have a choice. They need to begin taking Social Security as soon as it's available, at 62. Fifty-seven percent of retirees rely on Social Security as their primary source of income, according to a 2018 Gallup poll.

The other 43 percent, those with enough income to get by, can play the long game. Delay Social Security payments until you're 70, and you get more money every month. And since many people are living longer, the extra money might be needed to pay for health care expenses not covered by Medicare, like long-term care assistance.

If you claim your Social Security early, at 62, rather than waiting until your full retirement age, your monthly benefit drops by as much as 30 percent. However, every year you delay beyond your full retirement age, up to age 70, you get an 8 percent increase in your benefit.

For the last several years, my husband and I have been debating whether to take Social Security early. He thinks early is better because we could use the money to travel more while we are healthier. I want to wait and lock in the most money possible.

My husband did a spreadsheet. It showed that delaying until 70 would net us more Social Security money each year. His math also revealed how long it would take us to break even: to catch up on all the cash we missed out on by not collecting early, at 62. We would break even around age 79.

Discussing my own family's finances in 2018, I wrote this: "We've invested well enough that, barring some major financial catastrophe and assuming we pay off our mortgage before we retire, we can fund our senior years through savings and pension payments."

Oh, how quickly circumstances can change.

The catastrophe is here, and its name is COVID-19.

The coronavirus crisis means waiting until 70 to collect Social Security may no longer be the best choice.

The stock market is not just in bear territory: Equities have seen Great Depression-like declines. Running to the safety of a federally insured bank or credit union deposit account, such as a certificate of deposit, may preserve your principal. But with interest rates so low – less than 1 percent – your money won't keep pace with inflation.

The number of people having to file for unemployment has skyrocketed. The Labor Department said that in the first week of April, 6.6 million people filed for unemployment, bringing total new claims to 17 million in the last four weeks.

Many seniors have held onto full-time or part-time work to allow them to wait longer before taking Social Security. Some of them may now be forced to abandon their plans to wait until 70 – or at least their full retirement age – to collect their maximum retirement benefits. And, given this extraordinary time with an epic pandemic wreaking economic havoc, that's OK.

"The optimal strategy is not always just getting the most benefit out of Social Security. It has to factor into your overall plan," said Andrew Westlin, a certified financial planner with online financial adviser Betterment. "Now more than ever, evaluate your overall situation and what your spending needs are in retirement."

Heed Westlin's advice and determine if you can afford to wait. Do you have other assets you can tap? Can you cut expenses? You don't want to make a rash decision out of fear. No one knows how long it will take for the economy to recover, but it will improve.

"If you start at 62, you'll only get 57 percent of what you would have gotten at age 70," notes Ric Edelman, co-founder of Edelman Financial Engines. "But you might not have that luxury if you are unprepared otherwise. So start your Social Security benefits now, because that could be thousands of dollars a month that you are eligible for."

There is something Congress could do as it weighs other stimulus measures, Edelman says. If Americans 62 or older are forced to start taking Social Security early for coronavirus-related reasons, Congress could allow them to temporarily receive their benefits and then stop when the coronavirus emergency ends.

"This will make it easier for households headed by someone 62 or older to manage the crisis without creating any long-term adverse economic impact to themselves," Edelman said.

I think Edelman's idea is worth exploring. But until there's another solution don't risk your financial security clinging to conventional advice that may not apply in your situation.

Readers can write to Michelle Singletary c/o The Washington Post, 1301 K St., N.W., Washington, D.C. 20071. Her email address is michelle.singletary@washpost.com. Follow her on Twitter (@SingletaryM) or Facebook (www.facebook.com/MichelleSingletary).

Ask the Fool

Inherited Stock

Q Are gains from inherited stocks taxed? *— N.P., Medford, Oregon*

A It depends. If they're in a Roth IRA, where withdrawals are generally tax-free, there will likely be no taxation. In a traditional IRA, withdrawals will be treated as taxable income.

Meanwhile, if you inherit stocks that are in a regular, taxable account, there are some special rules. Imagine that you buy shares of Crusty's Crab Shack (ticker: CRABS) for $20 apiece, and that you sell them when they reach $50 per share. You'll be taxed on that gain of $30 per share (less commission costs).

But if you die and leave those shares to your children, it works differently. While your cost basis was $20 per share, your heirs' cost basis is "stepped up" to the fair market value of the stock on the date of your death. So if the shares are at $50 when you die, that becomes their cost basis. If they sell them immediately for $50 per share, they will have no gain. If they sell them later at $60 per share, their gain will be just $10 per share. Learn more at **IRS.gov**.

***

Q Must I work for a company to buy its stock? *— C.E., Denham Springs, Louisiana*

A Not at all. Anyone with a brokerage account can buy shares of thousands of publicly traded companies — from Amazon and Apple to Zions Bancorp and Zoetis. Being an employee can sometimes help, though, if you're offered the chance to buy shares at a discount.

Before doing any investing, read a lot about it — or read a little and start with a low-fee, broad-market index fund, such as one that tracks the S&P 500.

Want more information about stocks? Send us an email to foolnews@fool.com.

The Motley Fool

To Educate, Amuse & Enrich™

Motley Fool Goes Mobile!
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Fool's School

Use Those IRAs and 401(k)s

Many of us have no extra dollars for anything these days, with much of the country shut down due to the pandemic. But if you're among the lucky ones who can invest money for your future now, consider making good use of tax-advantaged retirement funds such as IRAs and 401(k)s. Here's a closer look at them.

• IRAs: For 2020, the contribution limit is $6,000, plus an additional $1,000 for those 50 and older. The deadline for IRA contributions is normally April 15 of the following year, so it's April 15, 2021, for 2020 contributions and April 15, 2020, for 2019 contributions, meaning you might still be able to make a 2019 contribution quickly. The deadline for filing your tax return and paying your taxes for 2019 has been extended to July 15, though, due to the pandemic; while the IRA contribution deadline might also be extended, as of this writing, that's still not clear.

• 401(k), 403(b) and most 457 plans: The contribution deadline for these accounts is Dec. 31 of each tax year, and the limit for 2020 is $19,500, plus an extra $6,500 for those 50 and older, for a total of $26,000. Many employers offer matching contributions to 401(k)s, and sometimes to other accounts. If yours does, aim to contribute enough to max that out — it's free money.

Note that both IRAs and 401(k)s come in traditional and Roth varieties. With a traditional account, you contribute money on a pre-tax basis and get an upfront benefit: If your taxable income was $60,000 and you contributed $5,000, your taxable income falls to $55,000, shrinking your tax bill. You'll be taxed on that money when you withdraw it in retirement.

Roth accounts accept post-tax dollars but offer no upfront tax break: A taxable income of $60,000 and a $5,000 contribution leaves you with $60,000 in taxable income. But when you withdraw that money (and whatever it has grown to) according to the rules, typically in retirement, it will be tax-free.

My Dumbest Investment

Profit Margins in Context

My dumbest mistake was selling my Amazon.com shares when they were priced in the $100s — because the company was earning low profit margins at that time. I now realize that profit margins are not that important for growth-oriented stocks. The shares are trading around $1,850 apiece now! *— N.Y., online*

The Fool Responds: It's definitely worthwhile to examine the profit margins of any company you're invested in or thinking of investing in — to determine how profitable it is, how profitable it is compared to its peers, and whether its margins are growing or shrinking. Low profit margins (or no profits at all) are not ideal, but they're not necessarily disqualifying, if you've delved deeply enough into the company and are convinced it will be very successful in the long run.

In Amazon's case, it spent many years with little to no profits, but that was largely by choice, as it plowed as much money as it could into growing its business. It could have pulled back on that spending and been more profitable, had it wanted to. It's always worth looking into exactly why a company's profit margins are low.

Amazon raked in around $280 billion in its last fiscal year, and recently sported a market value near $920 billion — and that's after its shares fell from nearly $2,200 in February back to $1,850 in late March.

The Motley Fool Take

Investing in Health

Investing in health care stocks for the long haul is a no-brainer, given the aging population and everyone's need for at least occasional medical care. So consider multibillion-dollar Medtronic (NYSE: MDT), the world's largest medical device company by sales.

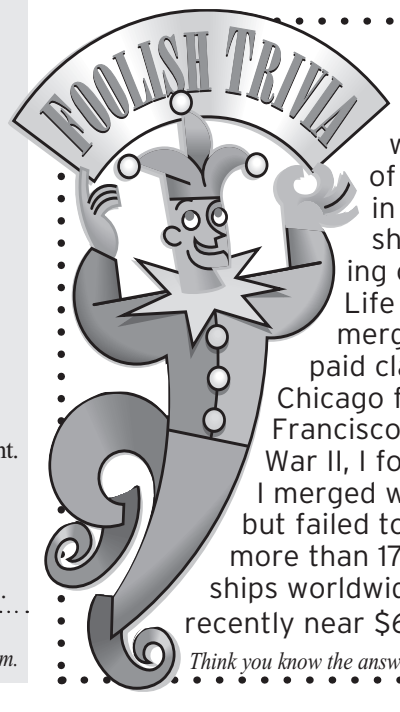
Medtronic runs four business segments: cardiac and vascular; minimally invasive therapies; restorative therapies; and diabetes. The cardiac and vascular group accounts for 38%, and the next two groups combined for almost 55% of Medtronic's total revenue.

In fiscal year 2019, Medtronic generated $30.6 billion in revenue and spent 7.5% of it on research and development. Today, Medtronic owns more than 47,000 patents, and gets nearly half its sales from outside the United States.

Medtronic has a solid pipeline of innovative products, such as robotic surgical equipment for minimally invasive therapies, a deep-brain stimulation device and the MiniMed 780G insulin pump.

The current economic environment is rocky and uncertain, but Medtronic is positioned well for it. It even makes ventilators, which are in great demand fighting COVID-19.

Medtronic has upped its dividend annually for 42 consecutive years and increased it at an impressive compound annual growth rate of 17% during that period. (It recently yielded 2.5%.) Long-term investors who can handle the market's volatility should give Medtronic a closer look.



Name That Company

I trace my roots to 1792, when the Insurance Company of North America was formed in Philadelphia to insure ships, and to the 1865 founding of the Connecticut General Life Insurance Company. (They merged, forming me, in 1982.) I paid claims in full for losses in the Chicago fire of 1871 and the 1906 San Francisco earthquake. After World War II, I focused more on health care. I merged with Express Scripts in 2018 but failed to merge with Anthem. I boast more than 170 million customer relationships worldwide, and my market value was recently near $61 billion. Who am I?

Think you know the answer? We'll announce it in next week's edition.

LAST WEEK'S TRIVIA ANSWER

I trace my roots back to 1983, when two guys founded me to sell software to make people's lives easier. My first product's name means to go faster, and another bestselling product's name suggests having the IRS connected to a turbine. Today, based in Mountain View, California, I'm a software giant, with about 50 million customers, around $7 billion in annual revenue and a market value recently near $61 billion. I employ more than 9,000 people in nine countries, and rank high on lists of the best companies to work for. Who am I? (Answer: Intuit)

Want to Invest? Email us at foolnews@fool.com, and we'll send you some tips to start investing. Sorry, we can't provide individual financial advice.

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What to do when you can't pay your bills

The economic fallout from the coronavirus pandemic could be profound. Many people are already losing jobs, with unemployment jumping at a record pace.

Liz Weston

Even those who stay employed may face reduced hours or uncertainty about how long their paychecks will continue.

If you're in a situation where you can't pay all your bills, or likely to be there soon, you may have some options to limit the damage to your finances.

Prioritize essentials

Before paying anything else, try to cover the basics: shelter (mortgage or rent), food and utilities. Transportation, cell phone service and child care are necessities if they allow you to work.

The recently enacted stimulus package includes a 120-day ban on evictions for many renters, as well as a moratorium on foreclosures for most mortgages. People who have federally backed mortgages (including Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, FHA, VA and Department of Agriculture) and who can attest to COVID-19-related financial hardship can request forbearance from their mortgage lenders. If you're going to miss a mortgage payment, contact your lender about hardship options and consider talking to a housing counselor approved by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. You can call HUD at 888-995-4673 for round-the-clock foreclosure avoidance assistance.

Housing counselors can help renters, as well. Another good resource is Just Shelter, which can point you to local organizations fighting eviction and homelessness. Also, emergency rental assistance may be available. Start your search for help at www.211.org.

Your local 211 organization can also connect you to resources to pay for other essentials, including food and utilities. Regulators in some states have told utilities not to shut off service for nonpayment during the crisis; elsewhere many utilities have vowed to suspend disconnections. Many also offer lower-cost "lifeline" service or payment plans if you fall behind.

If your car payments are too expensive and you owe less than the car is worth, you may be able to refinance the loan. Otherwise, the best option may be to sell it and buy something cheaper, if possible. If you owe more than the car's value, you may still be able to sell it if you can get a personal loan to cover the difference in what you owe. Try to avoid repossession, either voluntary or otherwise, since you'll still be on the hook for any deficit and your credit will suffer.

Identify your next-level priorities

Taxes, child support and insurance are expenses that can have serious consequences when you fail to pay.

The IRS and state tax agencies can take a portion of your wages, seize money from your bank account and even send you to jail (although that doesn't usually happen unless you're deliberately committing tax fraud). Similar penalties await people who fail to pay child support.

Falling behind on insurance payments, meanwhile, can cause your policies to lapse, leaving you vulnerable to potentially catastrophic expenses.

Some options for relief:

The IRS has pushed back the tax filing deadline to July 15. Many states are following suit. Tax agencies have payment plans if you can't immediately pay what you owe.

You may be able to modify a child support agreement if you go back to court.

If your insurance is unaffordable, talk to the insurer about alternatives or shop around for a less expensive policy.

Now consider everything else

Access to credit can help you pay the bills when your income isn't enough. Ideally you would make minimum payments on any loans or credit cards, since skipped payments can seriously damage your credit scores and cut off your ability to borrow. Miss enough payments and you could face collection calls, lawsuits and wage garnishment.

But some bills have a "pause" button. You can ask for forbearance on federal student loans, for example, which allows you to temporarily stop making payments. Since interest on federal education loans has been waived during the crisis, forbearance won't increase what you owe. Plus, federal loans have income-driven repayment plans that potentially can reduce your required payments to zero. The U.S. Department of Education's federal student aid site has details.

Meanwhile, some banks and other lenders are offering their customers more options after federal regulators encouraged financial institutions to help consumers affected by the pandemic. For example, credit card issuers, including Capital One and American Express, are allowing customers who ask for help to skip a monthly payment without penalty. Contact your lenders to see what's available and how to qualify for any assistance.

Unfortunately, sometimes the available help isn't enough. A credit counselor's debt management plan could allow you to repay your debt at lower rates, or you may need to consider bankruptcy, which stops collections activity and legally erases many debts. You can get referrals from the National Foundation for Credit Counseling and the National Association of Consumer Bankruptcy Attorneys, respectively.

Liz Weston is a columnist at NerdWallet, a certified financial planner and author of "Your Credit Score." Email: lweston@nerdwallet.com. Twitter: @lizweston.

Money&Markets Extra

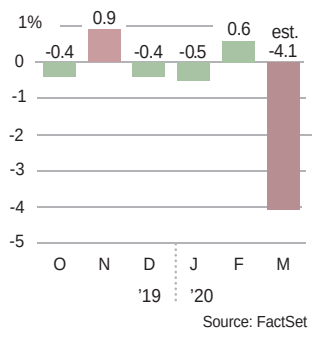
The Week Ahead

Industrial slump

Analysts expect significant declines in industrial production due to the coronavirus when the Federal Reserve issues March data on Wednesday.

U.S. industrial production rebounded in February after declines in December and January. The economic impact of the coronavirus outbreak was not apparent in the February numbers, but is expected to sink March's figure as manufacturers shut down production lines to comply with social distancing recommendations by the government and medical experts.

Industrial production
seasonally adjusted change

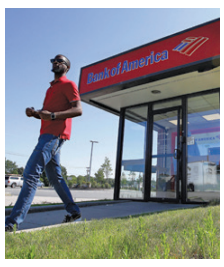


Source: FactSet

Bank earnings

Some major U.S. banks report quarterly earnings on Wednesday.

Bank of America, Citigroup and PNC all report quarterly earnings that include the month of March, when coronavirus fears all but shuttered the U.S. economy. The results may highlight how much banks suffered in the later part of the quarter due to coronavirus, but investors will be more interested to see the banks' guidance for the rest of 2020. Shares in banks have lost up to one-third of their value in recent weeks.

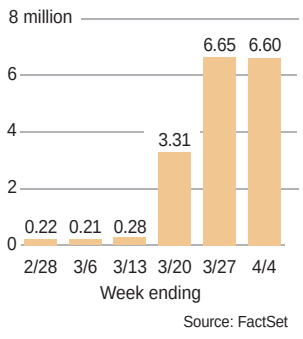


Massive layoffs

The Labor Department reports on weekly unemployment benefit applications Thursday. It has become the most-watched economic indicator since the coronavirus knocked out the U.S. economy in March.

In the past three weeks, more than 16 million Americans have applied for jobless benefits. Economists believe that number will continue to rise and the unemployment rate could hit 15% or more when the April jobs report is released.

Initial jobless benefit claims
seasonally adjusted



Source: FactSet

Amer Elec Power AEP
$86.31 **+13.81 +19.0%**
▲ **4-wk.** +4.6% ▼ **YTD** -8.7%

Ford Motor F
$5.37 **+1.13 +26.7%**
▲ **4-wk.** +.4% ▼ **YTD** -42.3%

Whirlpool WHR
$104.75 **+22.11 +26.8%**
▲ **4-wk.** +1.9% ▼ **YTD** -29.0%

StocksofLocalInterest

STOCK	TICKER	52-WK LOW	52-WK HIGH	FRIDAY CLOSE	$CHG 1WK	%CHG 1WK	1MO	1QTR	%CHG YTD	%RTN 1YR	PE	YLD
AT&T Inc	T	26.08	39.70	**30.73**	**3.79**	14.1	▼	▼	-21.4	-0.7	14	6.8
Amer Elec Power	AEP	65.14	104.97	**86.31**	**13.81**	19.0	▲	▼	-8.7	-2.5	22	3.2
Apple Inc	AAPL	170.27	327.85	**267.99**	**26.58**	11.0	▲	▼	-8.7	33.3	25	1.1
AutoZone Inc	AZO	684.91	1274.41	**940.83**	**150.27**	19.0	▼	▼	-21.0	-14.2	17	...
BP PLC	BP	15.51	45.29	**24.90**	**0.18**	0.7	▲	▼	-34.0	-38.8	7	9.9
CMS Engy	CMS	46.03	69.12	**62.33**	**7.78**	14.3	▲	▼	-0.8	6.9	38	2.6
CocaCola Co	KO	36.27	60.07	**49.00**	**5.17**	11.8	▲	▼	-11.5	3.6	30	3.3
Comcast Corp A	CMCSA	31.71	47.74	**38.00**	**4.05**	11.9	▲	▼	-15.5	-6.5	18	2.4
Deere Co	DE	106.14	180.48	**145.75**	**10.23**	7.5	▲	▼	-15.9	-11.6	14	2.1
Disney	DIS	79.07	153.41	**104.50**	**10.62**	11.3	▲	▼	-27.7	-10.4	14	1.7
Dollar Tree Stores	DLTR	60.20	119.71	**77.56**	**7.32**	10.4	▲	▼	-17.5	-28.1	10	...
Exxon Mobil Corp	XOM	30.11	83.49	**43.13**	**3.92**	10.0	▲	▼	-38.2	-45.8	10	8.1
Fifth Third Bcp	FITB	11.10	31.64	**17.82**	**4.38**	32.6	▲	▼	-42.0	-36.9	6	6.1
1st Source Corp	SRCE	26.07	53.42	**35.07**	**5.42**	18.3	▲	▼	-32.4	-28.7	10	3.3
Ford Motor	F	3.96	10.56	**5.37**	**1.13**	26.7	▲	▼	-42.3	-42.6	4	11.2
Gen Electric	GE	5.90	13.26	**7.14**	**0.41**	6.1	▼	▼	-36.0	-29.4	...	0.6
Home Depot	HD	140.63	247.12	**201.53**	**22.83**	12.8	▲	▼	-7.7	-2.1	20	3.0
Horizon Bcp IN	HBNC	7.42	19.48	**11.21**	**2.17**	24.0	▲	▼	-40.6	-40.2	5	4.3
Huntgtn Bancshs	HBAN	6.82	15.63	**9.03**	**2.19**	32.1	▲	▼	-40.2	-34.5	9	6.6
IDEX Corp	IEX	104.56	178.14	**151.52**	**13.01**	9.4	▲	▼	-11.9	-5.2	33	1.3
IBM	IBM	90.56	158.75	**121.50**	**15.16**	14.3	▲	▼	-9.4	-15.3	13	5.3
JPMorgan Chase	JPM	76.91	141.10	**102.76**	**18.71**	22.3	▲	▼	-26.3	-10.6	10	3.1
Johnson & Johnson	JNJ	109.16	154.50	**141.23**	**7.06**	5.3	▲	▼	-3.2	3.8	23	2.7
Lowes Cos	LOW	60.00	126.73	**95.31**	**13.11**	15.9	▲	▼	-20.4	-19.0	21	2.3
McDonalds Corp	MCD	124.23	221.93	**183.70**	**23.37**	14.6	▲	▼	-7.0	-5.4	28	2.7
Microsoft Corp	MSFT	118.58	190.70	**165.14**	**11.31**	7.4	▲	▲	4.7	38.0	33	1.2
Miller Herman	MLHR	14.39	49.88	**21.94**	**4.15**	23.3	▼	▼	-47.3	-45.2	9	3.8
Penney JC Co Inc	JCP	0.26	1.37	**.34**	**0.07**	26.7	▼	▼	-69.5	-78.0	...	...
Perrigo Co plc	PRGO	40.01	63.86	**50.45**	**6.09**	13.7	▲	▲	-2.3	-5.0	25	1.8
Pfizer Inc	PFE	27.88	44.56	**35.39**	**1.75**	5.2	▲	▼	-9.7	-18.4	14	4.3
Procter & Gamble	PG	94.34	128.09	**114.66**	**-0.42**	-0.4	▲	▼	-8.2	11.7	26	2.6
Republic Svcs	RSG	65.37	100.91	**81.82**	**9.29**	12.8	▲	▼	-8.7	-4.0	37	2.0
Steelcase Inc	SCS	7.02	23.02	**10.45**	**2.23**	27.1	▼	▼	-48.9	-37.2	9	5.6
Stryker Corp	SYK	124.54	226.30	**182.72**	**34.65**	23.4	▲	▼	-13.0	-14.0	31	1.3
TCF Financial Corp	TCF	16.96	47.46	**28.88**	**7.95**	38.0	▲	▼	-38.3	-40.6	8	4.8
Target Corp	TGT	70.03	130.24	**104.20**	**11.63**	12.6	▲	▼	-18.7	24.6	17	2.5
Tractor Supply	TSCO	63.89	114.25	**88.23**	**8.73**	11.0	▲	▼	-5.6	-13.1	24	1.6
UPS class B	UPS	82.00	125.31	**98.69**	**8.69**	9.7	▲	▼	-15.7	-15.3	17	4.1
Verizon Comm	VZ	48.84	62.22	**57.44**	**3.36**	6.2	▲	▼	-6.4	0.6	15	4.3
WEC Energy Group	WEC	68.01	109.53	**98.22**	**12.97**	15.2	▲	▲	6.5	15.3	31	2.6
WalMart Strs	WMT	98.85	128.08	**121.80**	**2.32**	1.9	▲	▲	2.5	25.6	70	1.8
Walgreen Boots Alli	WBA	39.41	64.50	**43.98**	**3.26**	8.0	▲	▼	-25.4	-18.4	8	4.2
Wendys Co	WEN	6.82	24.04	**16.97**	**3.91**	29.9	▲	▼	-23.6	-16.0	19	2.8
Whirlpool	WHR	64.00	163.64	**104.75**	**22.11**	26.8	▲	▼	-29.0	-26.7	...	4.6
Worthington Inds	WOR	19.28	44.69	**27.63**	**4.80**	21.0	▲	▼	-34.5	-34.0	11	3.5
XPO Logistics Inc	XPO	38.47	100.18	**61.90**	**17.61**	39.8	▲	▼	-22.3	-5.8	24	...

Notes on data: Price-earnings ratio unavailable for closed-end funds and companies with net losses over prior four quarters.

StoryStocks

Stocks closed out the best week in 45 years on Thursday after the Federal Reserve launched its latest effort to support the economy through the pandemic. The central bank said it may provide up to $2.3 trillion in loans to households, local governments and businesses as the country tips into a recession that may be the worst in decades. It's the latest move by the Fed, which has rushed to ensure cash gets to parts of the economy that need it.

JPMorgan Chase JPM

Close: **$102.76 ▲8.46 or 9.0%**
The Federal Reserve announced more aggressive measures to support lending to companies, households and local governments.□

52-week range $76.91 $141.10
Vol.: **41.0m (1.9x avg.)** PE: **9.6**
Mkt. Cap: **$313.1 b** Yield: **3.5%**

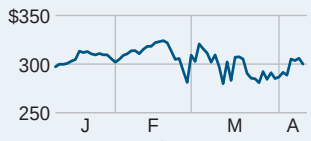
Walt Disney DIS

Close: **$104.50 ▲3.43 or 3.4%**
The company's Disney Plus streaming service surpassed 50 million paid subscribers just five months after launching.□

52-week range $79.07 $153.41
Vol.: **31.4m (1.7x avg.)** PE: **16.7**
Mkt. Cap: **$188.7 b** Yield: **1.7%**

Costco Wholesale COST

Close: **$300.01 ▼-5.96 or -2.0%**
The company reported March sales figures that disappointed investors.□



52-week range $233.05 $325.26
Vol.: **6.4m (1.8x avg.)** PE: **35.2**
Mkt. Cap: **$132.5 b** Yield: **0.9%**

Six Flags Entertainment SIX

Close: **$16.14 ▲1.85 or 13.0%**
The company said its lenders have agreed to increase its credit facility from $350 million to $481 million.

52-week range $8.75 $59.52
Vol.: **7.2m (2.0x avg.)** PE: **7.7**
Mkt. Cap: **$1.4 b** Yield: **6.2%**

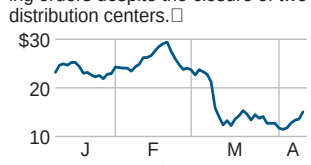
Big Lots BIG

Close: **$19.63 ▲3.86 or 24.5%**
The discount retail chain will net $550 million via a sale-leaseback agreement for several of its distribution centers.□

52-week range $10.13 $39.53
Vol.: **7.5m (4.1x avg.)** PE: **3.2**
Mkt. Cap: **$768.8 m** Yield: **6.1%**

Stitch Fix SFIX

Close: **$15.05 ▲1.48 or 10.9%**
The online clothing seller pulled its forecasts and said it continues fulfilling orders despite the closure of two distribution centers.□



52-week range $10.90 $32.34
Vol.: **7.4m (2.7x avg.)** PE: **61.6**
Mkt. Cap: **$850.7 m** Yield: **...**

SOURCE: FIS AP

Company Spotlight: The price is right

PriceSmart shares soared after the San Diego-based chain of warehouse clubs reported faster-than-expected profit and sales growth in its fiscal second quarter.

The company's stock leaped to a three-month high after it said sales rose 6% in the second quarter to $907 million.

PriceSmart operates 45 warehouse clubs in Colombia, Costa Rica and ten other countries in Latin America and the Caribbean.

CEO Sherry Bahrambeygui said in a statement that due to uncertainty from the virus pandemic, PriceSmart was putting on hold planned store openings in Colombia, Costa Rica and Jamaica.

PriceSmart's profit rose to 85 cents a share in the quarter that ended Feb. 29, well above the 79 cents forecast by Wall Street analysts.

The company's stock rose 12% to $65.09 on Thursday.

PriceSmart (PSMT) Thursday's close: **$65.09, +7.08**
52-WEEK RANGE $42 $80
Price-earnings ratio: **25** (Based on past 12-month results)

Total return	1-yr	3-yrs*	5-yrs*
PSMT	10.5%	-8.3	-4.4
Div. yield: 1.1%		**Dividend:** $0.70	

AP *annualized Source: FactSet

MutualFunds

FUND	NAV	WK CHG	12-MO %RTN
AB			
DiversMunicipal	14.23	+.19	+1.5
GlbBdAdv	8.29	+.09	+2.2
LgCpGrAdv	59.27	+5.67	+6.7
AMG			
Yacktman	17.27	+1.68	-8.8
Akre			
FocInstl d	44.38	+5.08	+9.1
FocRetail m	43.24	+4.95	+8.8
American Century			
EqIncI	7.69	+.72	-5.7
EqIncInv	7.67	+.71	-6.0
GrInv	32.77	+3.18	+5.7
UltraInv	48.19	+5.24	+4.2
American Funds			
AMCpA m	29.55	+2.79	-3.0
AmrcnBalA m	26.30	+1.67	+1.5
AmrcnHiInc A m	8.85	+.44	-7.5
AmrcnMutA m	37.72	+3.03	-3.5
BdfAmrcA m	13.68	+.13	+10.7
CptWldGrIncA m	43.68	+3.59	-7.9
CptlIncBldrA m	55.18	+3.16	-5.3
CptlWldBdA m	19.77	+.35	+3.0
EuroPacGrA m	45.06	+3.81	-11.1
FdmtlInvsA m	52.20	+5.27	-5.5
GlbBalA m	30.64	+1.74	-4.2
GrfAmrcA m	45.94	+4.27	-0.6
HiIncMuniBdA m	15.25	+.22	-1.1
IncAmrcA m	20.30	+1.36	-3.8
IntlGrIncA m	27.90	+2.08	-13.7
IntrmBdfAmrA m	13.94	+.08	+7.2
InvCAmrcA m	33.98	+3.01	-4.9
NewWldA m	57.80	+4.83	-10.0
NwPrspctvA m	40.72	+3.66	-3.5
STBdAmrcA m	10.11	+.01	+4.1
SmCpWldA m	48.23	+5.26	-8.4
TheNewEcoA m	40.02	+3.75	-5.5
TxExBdA m	13.05	+.20	+3.0
USGovtSecA m	14.89	-.04	+12.2
WAMtInvsA m	40.58	+4.11	-4.8
Angel Oak			
MltStratIncIns	9.58	+.03	-9.1
Artisan			
IntlInstl	27.44	+2.27	-7.4
IntlValueInstl	28.38	+2.72	-18.0
Baird			
AggregateBdInstl	11.46	+.10	+9.2
CorPlusBdInstl	11.66	+.13	+8.0
InternBdInstl	11.44	+.08	+6.8
ShrtTrmBdInstl	9.75	+.08	+3.4
Bernstein			
IntermDur	13.49	+.12	+6.4
BlackRock			
EqDivInstl	17.00	+1.80	-6.5
EqDivInvA m	16.95	+1.81	-6.7
GlbAllcIncInstl	17.69	+1.12	-1.9
GlbAllcIncInvA m	17.57	+1.12	-2.1
HYBdInstl	6.89	+.44	-7.3
HYBdK	6.90	+.45	-7.2
LowDurBdInstl	9.39	+.10	+0.3
NtnlMnInstl	10.73	+.24	+1.1
NtnlMnInvA m	10.74	+.24	+0.9
StrInc Opins	9.42	+.10	-0.8
StratMuOpIns	10.79	+.27	-4.5
TtlRetInstl	11.95	+.14	+6.4
Calamos			
MktNetrlIncIns	13.03	+.42	+1.8
Causeway			
IntlValInstl	11.29	+1.11	-22.8
ClearBridge			
AggresivGrA m	150.75	+15.90	-7.2
ApprecA m	22.74	+2.37	-2.5
LgCpGrI	49.23	+4.73	-0.2
Cohen & Steers			
PrfrdScInc,Incl	12.89	+.87	+0.4
Columbia			
DivIncIns	21.11	+2.00	-1.6
SlgCmsInfoA m	68.63	+7.57	+4.5
DFA			
EMktCorEql	16.47	+1.21	-21.1
EMktSCInstl	15.33	+1.30	-24.2
EmMktsInstl	22.40	+1.64	-19.8
EmMktsValInstl	20.85	+1.52	-27.6
FvYrGlbFIIns	10.77	+.02	+2.7
GlbAllc6040Ins	16.67	+1.21	-4.8
GlbEqInstl	19.78	+2.29	-11.8
GlbRlEsttSec	9.57	+1.57	-10.6
InflProtSecIns	12.53	+.03	+9.4
IntlCorEqIns	10.50	+.99	-17.5
IntlRlEsttScIns	3.56	+.46	-20.6
IntlSmCoInstl	14.03	+1.52	-17.8
IntlSmCpValIns	13.67	+1.51	-23.3
IntlValInstl	12.64	+1.14	-26.1
ItmGovtFIIns	13.76	-.07	+13.7
LgCpIntlInstl	18.61	+1.55	-14.4
OneYearFIInstl	10.30	...	+2.0
RlEsttSecInstl	35.38	+6.35	-4.8
ShTrmExQtyI	10.74	+.04	+2.3
TAUSCorEq2Instl	16.25	+2.02	-9.3
TMdUSEq	29.53	+3.27	-3.2
TMdUSMktwdVI	24.58	+3.21	-14.9
TwYrGlbFIIns	9.95	+.01	+2.3
USCorEq1Instl	21.15	+2.55	-7.9
USCorEqIIInstl	19.06	+2.37	-9.5
USLgCo	21.39	+2.31	-12
USLgCpValInstl	28.93	+3.85	-16.3
USMicroCpInstl	15.28	+2.39	-24.8
USSmCpInstl	25.55	+3.97	-22.2
USSmCpValInstl	23.19	+4.08	-30.1
USTrgtedValIns	15.54	+2.73	-28.7
Davis			
NYVentureA m	23.56	+2.86	-11.0
Delaware Inv			
ValInstl	17.81	+1.90	-13.3
Dodge & Cox			
Bal	84.64	+8.27	-7.0
GlbStk	9.37	+1.06	-19.1
Inc	14.11	+.34	+7.4
IntlStk	31.46	+2.91	-22.1
Stk	147.81	+18.82	-13.6
DoubleLine			
CorFII	10.70	+.09	+1.6
LowDurBdI	9.50	+.01	-2.0
TtlRetBdI	10.44	-.03	+2.8
TtlRetBdN b	10.44	-.02	+2.6
Eaton Vance			
AtlntCptSMIDCI	29.73	+4.29	-10.0
FltngRtInstl	7.90	+.22	-7.2
Edgewood			
GrInstl	36.56	+3.79	+7.2
FPA			
Crescent d	28.20	+2.58	-11.5
NewInc	9.85	+.03	+1.8
Federated			
InsHYBdIns	8.86	+.50	-3.9
KaufmannR m	5.44	+.44	+0.1
StratValDivIns	4.60	+.39	-12.9
TtlRetBdInstl	11.14	+.17	+7.4
Fidelity			
500IdxInsPrm	96.74	+9.99	-1.1
AsstMgr20%	13.15	+.41	+2.4
AsstMgr50%	17.06	+1.03	-0.4
AsstMgr70%	20.04	+1.59	-2.9
BCGrowth	98.14	+10.39	+2.3
BCGrowth	13.61	+1.45	+1.6
BCGrowthK	98.39	+10.42	+2.4
Balanced	22.26	+1.93	+0.9
BalancedK	22.26	+1.93	+1.0
Cap&Inc	8.73	+.67	-7.9
CmdtyStrat	3.74	+.05	-22.0
Contrafund	12.45	+1.17	+2.0
ContrafundK	12.47	+1.18	+2.2
CptlApprec	30.04	+3.08	-0.1
DivGro	23.97	+3.47	-11.8
DiversIntl	34.09	+2.85	-3.8
EmergMketsOpps	16.36	+1.21	-12.3
EqDividendInc	20.43	+2.53	-9.7
EqIncome	50.14	+4.50	-5.7
ExMktIdxInPr	49.92	+6.77	-14.9
Fidelity	46.87	+4.43	+7.4
FltngRtHiInc	8.40	+.32	-7.3
FourinOneIdx	42.32	+3.75	-4.0
Frdm 2015	11.90	+.54	-0.4
Frdm 2020	14.72	+.78	-1.6
Frdm 2025	12.83	+.76	-2.4
Frdm 2030	15.65	+1.07	-3.7
Frdm 2035	12.83	+1.04	-6.1
Frdm 2040	8.85	+.77	-7.5
Frdm 2045	10.06	+.88	-7.5
Frdm 2050	10.13	+.88	-7.5
GNMA	11.76	+.02	+6.1
GlbexUSIdxInsPr	10.67	+.80	-14.1
GlobalexUSIdx	10.50	+.79	-14.1
GroCo	19.89	+1.93	+5.9
GroCo	16.59	+1.63	+7.2
GroCoK	19.93	+1.94	+6.0
Growth&Inc	34.47	+3.50	-6.3
HighIncome	7.90	+.43	-5.3
IntlDiscv	37.59	+2.96	-7.1
IntlGr	15.22	+1.28	+1.6
IntlIdxInstlPrm	34.32	+2.66	-12.9
IntlVal	7.42	+.63	-19.0
IntrmMuniInc	10.44	+.15	+2.8
InvmGradeBd	11.72	+.18	+8.3
InvmGradeBd	8.43	+.15	+9.9
LowPrStk	38.70	+4.87	-13.8
LowPrStkK	38.66	+4.86	-13.7
Magellan	9.38	+.94	+4.2
MichiganMuniInc	12.40	+.21	+4.6
MidCapStock	27.98	+4.05	-13.5
MuniInc	12.96	+.23	+2.7
NasdCmpIdx	102.52	+9.84	+4.1
OTCPortfolio	11.66	+1.08	+5.5
OTCPortfolioK	11.86	+1.10	+5.6
Overseas	43.18	+3.60	-5.3
Puritan	21.05	+1.43	+1.9
PuritanK	21.03	+1.43	+2.0
ShTrmBd	8.71	+.06	+3.4
SmCpOpps	10.90	+1.39	-14.1
StkSelorAllCp	41.14	+4.65	-2.9
TaxFreeBond	11.52	+.20	+2.8
TotalBond	10.97	+.20	+7.2
TtlMktIdxInsPrm	77.17	+8.66	-3.4
USBdIdxInsPrm	12.36	+.08	+10.4
Value	7.72	+1.37	-22.8
Fidelity Advisor			
NewInsA m	27.87	+2.82	-3.2
NewInsI	28.61	+2.89	-3.0
StgInc	11.57	+.41	-1.7
StgIncI	11.57	+.41	-1.7
TotalBondI	10.95	+.19	+7.1
Fidelity Select			
Biotechnology	18.98	+.85	+1.6
HealthCare	25.91	+1.26	+10.2
MedTech&Devcs	53.82	+3.72	+5.0
Swre&ITSvcs	18.30	+1.37	+10.2
Technology	17.80	+1.16	+14.1
First Eagle			
GlbA m	49.99	+4.06	-6.8
Franklin Templeton			
CATxFrIncA1 m	7.43	+.13	+3.6
DynaTechA m	84.33	+8.26	+4.3
FdrTFIncA1 m	11.78	+.19	+3.3
GlbBdA m	10.02	-.10	-7.5
GlbBdAdv	9.97	-.10	-7.3
GlbBdR6	9.97	-.10	-7.1
Gr,IncA m	18.24	+1.01	-15.8
GrA m	100.53	+9.91	-0.4
HYTxFrIncA1 m	9.66	+.15	+0.3
IncA1 m	2.03	+.15	-8.1
IncAdv	2.01	+.15	-8.1
IncC m	2.06	+.15	-8.9
MutGlbDiscvA m	23.02	+2.49	-19.0
MutZ	21.19	+2.39	-17.8
RisingDivsA m	59.65	+6.37	-5.7
TtlRetA m	9.54	+.16	+2.4
GE			
RSPUSEq	50.89	+5.48	+2.0
Harbor			
CptlApprecInstl	69.77	+6.41	+2.8
Harding Loevner			
IntlEqInstl d	19.66	+1.13	-9.7
Hartford			
BalInvI	13.78	+.88	+2.0
CptlApprecA m	31.57	+3.76	-6.1
MidCpI	26.19	+3.72	-10.2
INVESCO			
ComStkA m	18.47	+2.26	-18.4
CptlAprcA m	49.60	+4.93	+2.4
DevMktsA m	37.35	+2.67	-13.1
DevMktsY	36.79	+2.64	-12.9
DiversDivA m	16.84	+1.84	-8.9
EqandIncA m	8.76	+.83	-7.4
GlbA m	78.96	+8.45	-9.5
HYMnA m	7.29	+.21	+0.8
HYMuniA m	9.36	+.18	-2.7
IntlGrY	36.92	+3.36	-6.1
MnStrA m	41.48	+4.28	-2.6
MnsA m	16.06	+.43	+2.7
Ivy			
SciAndTechA m	62.91	+5.73	+5.1
JPMorgan			
CPBondR6	8.50	+.07	+6.1
CoreBondI	12.09	+.04	+8.2
CoreBondR6	12.11	+.05	+8.4
EqIncI	15.95	+1.77	-9.6
HighYieldR6	6.42	+.36	-9.1
LCapGrI	38.29	+3.88	+6.9
MCapValL	30.28	+5.07	-20.7
Janus Henderson			
BalancedT	33.87	+2.00	+1.8
EnterpriseT	116.64	+15.11	-9.1
Jensen			
QualGrI	45.91	+4.47	-0.7
John Hancock			
Bdl	16.01	+.30	+6.6
BdR6	16.04	+.30	+6.7
DiscpValI	16.01	+1.98	-14.7
DiscpValMCI	17.19	+2.72	-13.1
DiscpValR6	16.04	+1.98	-14.6
IntlGrI	25.70	+1.68	-6.2
MltMgLsBlA b	12.47	+.88	-4.3
MltmgrLsGr1 b	12.26	+1.06	-7.1
Lazard			
EMEqInstl	13.58	+.97	-22.5
GlbLtdInfrsIns	13.42	+.76	-3.8
IntlStratEqIns	12.25	+1.08	-14.8
Loomis Sayles			
BdInstl	12.34	+.43	-6.9
GrY	17.14	+1.42	+3.9
Lord Abbett			
AffiliatedA m	12.37	+1.54	-11.7
BdDebA m	7.27	+.33	-4.2
BdDebF b	7.26	+.33	-4.1
ShrtDurIncA m	4.01	+.06	-0.9
ShrtDurIncC m	4.03	+.06	-1.5
ShrtDurIncF b	4.00	+.05	-0.9
ShrtDurIncI	4.00	+.05	-0.8
MFS			
GrA m	111.33	+10.26	+7.6
GrI	119.10	+10.99	+7.8
InstlIntlEq	22.92	+1.60	-6.8
MAInvsGrStkA m	29.07	+3.12	+3.2
MAInvsTrustA m	28.17	+2.94	-2.5
TtlRetA m	18.07	+1.36	-0.2
ValA m	36.89	+4.47	-5.2
ValI	37.10	+4.50	-4.9
Mairs & Power			
GrInv	109.98	+11.37	-2.7
MassMutual			
SelectMdCpGrI	19.84	+2.44	-7.0
Metropolitan West			
TtlRetBdI	11.28	+.15	+9.0
TtlRetBdM b	11.28	+.15	+8.8
TtlRetBdPlan	10.61	+.14	+9.0
Northern			
IntlEqIdx d	10.15	+.79	-15.4
StkIdx	31.99	+3.47	-3.2
Nuveen			
HYMuniBdA m	15.90	+.47	-4.2
HYMuniBdI	15.90	+.47	-4.0
IntermDrMnBdI	9.26	+.15	+2.5
LtdTrmMnBdI	11.00	+.12	+1.9
Oakmark			
EqAndIncInv	24.33	+2.32	-10.5
IntlInv	16.65	+2.18	-27.3
Inv	61.60	+9.12	-15.6
Old Westbury			
GlbSmMdCpStrat	12.51	+1.42	-12.3
LgCpStrats	12.64	+1.14	-7.4
MnBd	12.31	+.17	+3.9
Osterweis			
StrInc	10.02	+.24	-5.9
PGIM Investments			
HighYieldZ	4.85	+.21	-7.9
TtlRetBdA m	14.17	+.23	+4.2
TtlRetBdZ	14.12	+.23	+4.6
PIMCO			
AllAstInstl	10.52	+.63	-7.9
HYInstl	8.22	+.45	-5.3
IBdUSDHI	10.52	+.05	+2.5
IncA m	11.15	+.27	-3.3
IncC m	11.15	+.27	-4.0
IncI2	11.15	+.27	-3.0
IncInstl	11.15	+.27	-2.9
InvtGrdCdtBdI	10.44	+.32	+3.2
InvtGrdCdtBdI-2	10.44	+.32	+3.1
LowDrInstl	9.78	+.03	+3.2
MortgOpps&Bdl	10.44	+.09	+0.3
RlRetInstl	11.62	+.06	+8.6
ShrtTrmIns	9.55	+.01	+0.1
TtlRetA m	10.58	+.04	+8.4
TtlRetI2	10.58	+.04	+8.7
TtlRetIns	10.58	+.04	+8.8
PRIMECAP Odyssey			
AgrsGr	36.67	+3.92	-13.7
Gr	33.09	+3.52	-12.9
Stk	27.23	+2.91	-11.7
Parnassus			
CorEqInv	41.42	+3.55	+0.5
Performance			
StrBd	21.95	-.01	+1.7
Pioneer			
A m	26.56	+2.78	+3

hp BUSINESS

Dreamstime / TNS

During the coronavirus pandemic, many people have been working from home, using virual meeting tools such as Zoom, Google Hangouts or Slack video to connect with their coworkers.

The post-coronavirus world could see more employees working from home

By MARCO SANTANA
Orlando Sentinel

The fallout from the coronavirus pandemic could sharply increase the number of people who work from home after it subsides, according to a new analysis.

Researchers at the Rockefeller Institute of Government, which had been monitoring the practice even before the crisis, said businesses have been forced to find a way to make remote work succeed.

"Surveys have shown that a lot of employers are opening up more to telecommuting," said Liz Farmer, a fiscal policy expert who authored the study. "Others who hadn't or wouldn't have considered it or were worried that production might drop, they have now been forced to let their employees work from home."

The result is more once-skeptical business owners may embrace remote work, the study found.

In 2005, 3.6 percent of the American workforce did their jobs remotely. By 2010, that had jumped to 4.3 percent and then 5.3 percent in 2018, according to data from the U.S. Census Bureau's American Community Survey analyzed by the Rockefeller Institute.

The pandemic should push that number even higher as the business environment evolves quickly in the aftermath of the crisis, Farmer said.

Most states are now enforcing rules that prohibit gatherings of more than 10 people and non-essential businesses from operating.

Stay-at-home orders were a direct response to the quickly escalating crisis and the rising death toll in the United States and across the world.

"This has become a forced experiment," Farmer said.

Some tech companies have complied with stay-at-home orders by enhancing remote work capabilities.

Electronic Arts, which has about 700 employees in Maitland, Fla., has been monitoring coronavirus since January. In late February, the company eliminated most travel and began to encourage working from home. Now, only critical staff continues to work at its physical offices.

"As we take these steps for our Electronic Arts employees, we're also very focused on minimizing any potential for disruption to our players," according to a statement from EA. "We are confident in our continuity plans. We don't anticipate major changes in our games or services as a result of our teams working from home, but we're learning through this process as well and patience will be key."

"These are challenging times for everyone," the statement continued. "We're working to look after our employees and their families, and make sure we're doing the right and responsible things to fight this pandemic illness."

The ability to shift completely to remote working should come easier to companies such as Electronic Arts, Farmer said.

"More big companies are doing it, and they have the infrastructure for it," she said. "If you are a company like EA, where people work across the globe, they are likely not having many in-person meetings anyway. The transition for companies like that to remote working seems to be a part of the natural flow."

Farmer warns, however, that the pandemic's extreme circumstances mean that a clear picture of how many people might end up working remotely afterward cannot be seen.

"This is not representative of what a normal work-from-home culture would look like," she said. "A lot of the advantages – like being able to hit the gym or go to the library – those things are not available. No one in their right minds would take this and compare it to January."

IRS launches website to speed some relief payments

By SARAH D. WIRE
Los Angeles Times (TNS)

WASHINGTON — Many Americans who didn't file taxes in 2018 or 2019 because they earned less than $12,000 a year can now provide the IRS with direct deposit information in order to more quickly receive their up to $1,200 economic stimulus payout, the IRS announced Friday.

The new site – largely targeted at low-income people, the homeless and others who it is feared may fall through the cracks in distributing the money – is for people who: had gross income that did not exceed $12,200 for an individual or $24,400 for married couples for 2019; were not otherwise required to file a federal income tax return for 2019; and didn't plan to, the IRS said.

Using the portal, people can submit basic personal information to the IRS, including full names and Social Security numbers for themselves and any spouse or children in the home, mailing address and bank account information for direct deposit.

New America Foundation, a Washington, D.C., think tank, estimates that 12 million non-filers may fall into that category.

The portal is separate from the soon-to-be-launched "Get My Payment" portal that the IRS is creating for people who filed their taxes but did not get a tax refund through direct deposit. That portal – which will also allow people to track the status of their payout – is expected to be ready as soon as next week.

Congress approved the up to $1,200 payouts in the $2-trillion economic bailout it passed last month in an effort to help Americans harmed by the coronavirus-related shutdowns pay their bills. An estimated 110 million Americans, including Social Security recipients, will begin seeing the money in their bank accounts next week, but some of the payments have been delayed as the Treasury Department races to create new systems to reach the approximately 101 million tax filers who do not already have direct deposit information on file with the IRS.

How to boost business using live video

Live video streaming has become one of the most powerful ways to forge stronger connections with customers.

Apps like Facebook Live, Instagram Stories, Snapchat Stories, YouTube Live Streaming, and Periscope can help small business owners boost sales and strengthen their brands.

Going "live" enables people to see what's happening with your business in real-time and offers a more personal view of what your company does and who the faces are behind your logo.

If you're thinking about giving live video streaming a try, here are some ideas to help you go live with content that will engage viewers and shine the spotlight on your small business's strengths.

SCORE

This column is provided by SCORE, an organization dedicated to helping small businesses start, grow and succeed. The local SCORE chapter provide free and confidential mentoring in management, accounting, marketing and business plan preparation.

Introduce a new product or service. Live video provides a memorable way to communicate features and benefits and get people excited about your new offerings.

Feature product demonstrations and how-tos. Live video offers an effective way to demonstrate how products work and teach customers how to use your products. "Seeing is believing." If you show people your products or services improving productivity or making life easier for a customer, it adds credibility and builds trust.

Introduce a new team member. Sharing the credentials, capabilities, and personalities of new employees can facilitate a stronger personal connection with customers and enhance customers' confidence in what your business can accomplish.

Interview a raving fan customer and share their success story. This type of live word-of-mouth testimonial can serve as a powerful endorsement of your products and services.

Show a fun "day in the life" glimpse of your office culture. Streaming video of your team's camaraderie during work can help humanize your brand and give your customers a sense of what it's like behind the scenes at your company.

Feature your company participating in a community cause. Capturing real-time moments of your team giving back to the community can build a stronger emotional connection with customers. People feel good about supporting businesses that commit themselves to causes that help those in need.

Show your team members celebrating a milestone. Whether it's making a toast to your business's five-year anniversary or announcing a new project partnership, celebrating your milestones through live video can show people you're a thriving and growing company.

Introduce a new marketing campaign or a branding development. Streaming video to raise buzz about new promotional offers or rebranding efforts (like a new logo) can generate excitement and enthusiasm – and potentially sales!

Show off a team member's skills on the job. By featuring your employees' expertise and capabilities, you can reinforce why customers should choose your products and services over those from your competitors.

NEW IN BUSINESS

Two organizations listed among nation's best

BENTON HARBOR — Kinexus Group and United Way of Southwest Michigan were recently named two of the 2020 Best Nonprofits To Work For.

The Nonprofit Times, the leading national business publication for nonprofit managers, partnered with Best Companies Group to identify nonprofit organizations with quality workplaces.

United Way of Southwest Michigan was ranked No. 4 and Kinexus Group ranked No. 36, out of 50 nonprofits across the nation.

This survey and awards program is designed to identify, recognize and honor the Top 50 employers in the nonprofit industry, benefiting the industry's economy, workforce and businesses.

Nonprofits from across the United States entered the two-part survey process to determine the results.

Public announcement of the entire list and rankings was published by The Nonprofit Times on April 2.

BUSINESS PEOPLE

JohnsonRauhoff adds to its executive team

ST. JOSEPH — Lyn Wilson has been promoted to senior account director at JohnsonRauhoff.

Wilson, who works remotely from the JR satellite office in Boston, has been with the company for over a decade and leads many of the organization's marquee accounts.

Wilson joined JR in August 2009 as an account executive for the Sur La Table account at the Benton Harbor studio.

She's led cross-functional teams on accounts such as Walmart, Sam's Club and Newell Brands. In 2017, she started a JR Atlanta satellite office. The effort led to a satellite office in Boston.

Apple, Google to harness phones for virus infection tracking

By FRANK BAJAK and MATT O'BRIEN
AP Technology Writer

Apple and Google launched a major joint effort to leverage smartphone technology to contain the COVID-19 pandemic.

New software the companies plan to add to phones would make it easier to use Bluetooth wireless technology to track down people for who may have been infected by coronavirus carriers. The idea is to help national or regional governments roll out apps for so-called "contact tracing" that will run on iPhones and Android phones alike.

The technology works by harnessing short-range Bluetooth signals. Using the Apple-Google technology, contact-tracing apps would gather a record of other phones with which they came into close proximity. Such data can be used to alert others who might have been infected by known carriers of the novel coronavirus, although only in cases where the phones' owners have installed the apps and agreed to share data with public-health authorities.

Software developers have already created such apps in countries including Singapore and China to try to contain the pandemic. In Europe, the Czech Republic says it will release such an app after Easter. Britain, Germany and Italy are also developing their own tracing tools.

Privacy and civil liberties activists have warned that such apps need to be designed so governments cannot abuse them to track their citizens. Apple and Google said in a rare joint announcement that user privacy and security are baked into the design of their plan.

The technology might serve as a stopgap in the absence of widespread testing for the novel coronavirus, which in the U.S. remains limited after production problems and limited federal coordination of the tests' production and distribution. "It's not a replacement for just having widespread testing, which would be more accurate," said Tiffany Li, a visiting law professor at Boston University who studies privacy and technology. "But clearly we have a huge shortage of tests."

Li suggested that Bluetooth signal tracking protects privacy better than the use of other options such as GPS or cell-tower based location data, which would allow centralized authorities access to the information. But it could still lead to numerous mistaken alerts, she said – for instance, if someone was in full protective gear or in an adjacent apartment while physically close to an infected person.

Pam Dixon, executive director of the World Privacy Forum, said a conversation with Apple's senior director for global privacy, Jane Horvath, assured her that the initiative will protect people's privacy. Sensitive information will stay on individual phones in encrypted form and alerts will be handled by public health agencies, not the tech companies, she said.

"I think they've taken care of some of the really big problems," Dixon said, noting the companies say they can turn off the system when it's no longer needed. "The government is not going to have identity information of those testing positive."

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IN THE ELKHART CIRCUIT COURT
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CAUSE NUMBER:
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Khloe Coleman
DOB: 12/07/2014
(Minor child)
And
Kadija Coleman, Mother
Evan Jones, Alleged Father
and any Unknown Alleged Fathers
(Parents
SUMMONS FOR SERVICE BY PUBLICATION & NOTICE OF CHILD IN NEED OF SERVICES HEARING
TO: Evan Jones, and Any Unknown Alleged Fathers;
NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN to the above noted parent whose whereabouts are unknown, that the Indiana Department of Child Services has filed its Verified Petition Alleging the child to be in Need of Services, in accordance with I.C. 31-34-9-3, and that an adjudication hearing has been scheduled with the Court.
YOU ARE HEREBY COMMANDED to appear before the Judge of the Elkhart Circuit Court, 315 South Second Street, Elkhart, IN 46516-3292 - 574-523-2244 for a Fact finding on 5/29/2020 at 9:00A.M. At said hearing, the Court will consider the Petition and evidence thereon and will render its decision as to whether the above named minor child is a child in need of services and shall enter adjudication accordingly.
Your failure to appear after lawful notice will be deemed as your default and waiver to be present at said hearing.
UPON ENTRY OF SAID ADJUDICATION, A DISPOSITIONAL HEARING will be held in which the Court will consider (1) Alternatives for the care, treatment, or rehabilitation for the child;
(2) The necessity, nature, and extent of your participation in the program of care, treatment, or rehabilitation for the child; and
(3) Your financial responsibility for any services provided for the parent, guardian or custodian of the child including child support.
YOU MUST RESPOND by appearing in person or by an attorney within thirty (30) days after the last publication of this notice, and in the event you fail to do so, an adjudication on said petition and a dispositional decree may be entered against you without further notice.
Dated this 3rd Day of April, 2020.
Christopher Anderson
Clerk of Elkhart County
Carrie D. Risner, 35815-37
Attorney, Indiana Department of Child Services,
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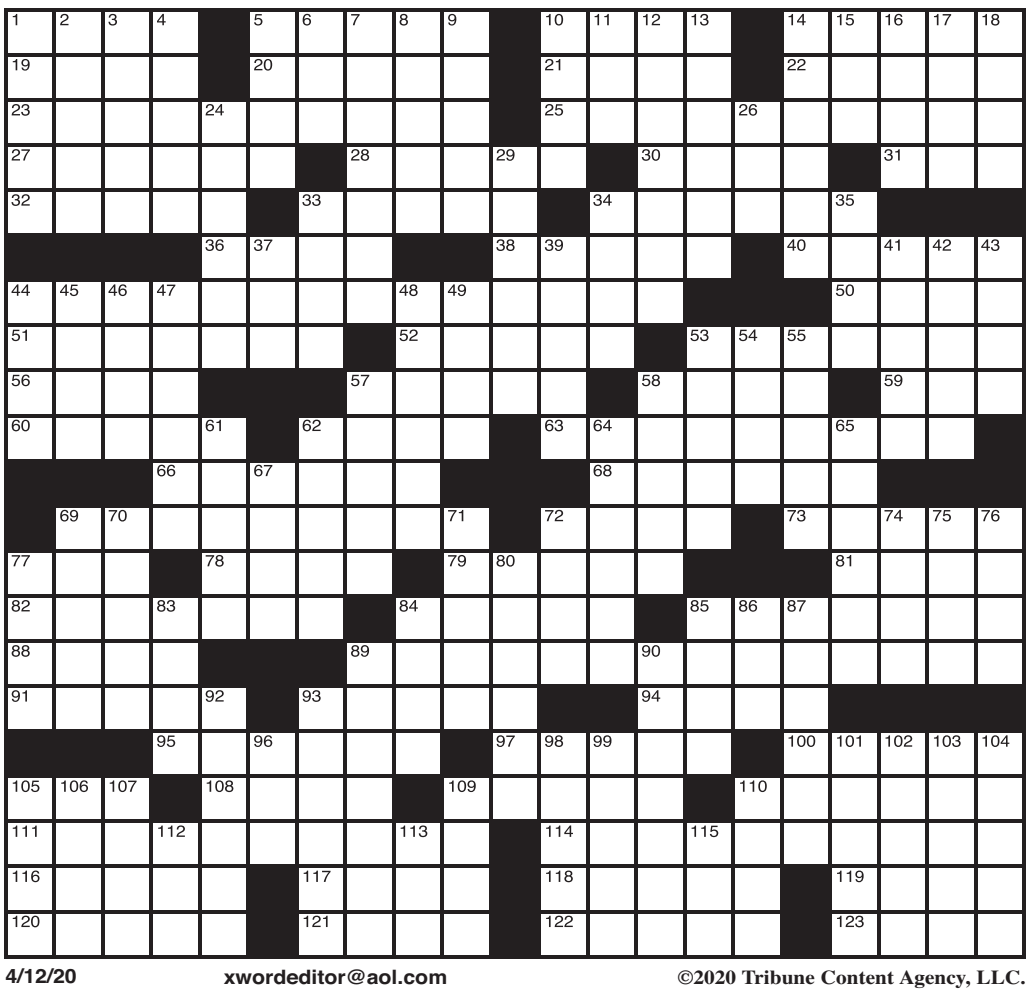
Los Angeles Times Sunday Crossword Puzzle

Edited by Rich Norris and Joyce Nichols Lewis

"UR OUT!" By FRED PISCOP

ACROSS
1 Identifies in a Facebook photo
5 __ basin
10 Chitchats
14 Prep for surgery
19 Mil or mile
20 Kipling's "Lone Wolf"
21 Release, as an odor
22 Reason to march
23 Where a displaced ex-hubby may sleep?
25 Determination as to which twin is born first?
27 Brunch dish
28 2000 NBA MVP
30 Clay-pigeon launcher
31 Guinness Book suffix
32 Back-to-zero button
33 Delightful places
34 Closed (in)
36 Concerning
38 North Pole explorer
40 Restaurant with skating carhops
44 Poem about the letter nu?
50 Myriad
51 Violinist's effect
52 "Didn't mean it"
53 Confession hearers
56 Lendl of tennis
57 Alloy containing carbon
58 "Any day now"
59 Body __
60 Elsinore natives
62 Ex-White House Press Secretary Spicer
63 Progressive Insurance icon's layoff?
66 Warning to a sinner
68 "__ Madness": old anti-drug movie
69 Dried, pulverized onions?
72 "The Swedish Nightingale" Jenny
73 Littlest littermates
77 Greek X
78 Primatologists' subjects
79 Commonly abbreviated bit of Latin
81 Part of a hat trick
82 Hard bargain driver
84 "CSI" part
85 African grassland
88 "Uh-huh"
89 Three movies about skeletons?
91 Clobbers with snowballs
93 Silents vamp Bara
94 Hammerhead cousin
95 Got ready to stop
97 Needing a rinse
100 28-Across, for eight seasons
105 "That's unfortunate"
108 Rebus animals
109 Game akin to bingo
110 Flea market deal
111 Extension of an embargo?
114 Della's notable facial feature?
116 Poke around
117 Artist who helped Hitchcock design a dream sequence for "Spellbound"
118 Colorful upholstery fabric
119 Gobs
120 Trivial
121 Manicure sound
122 Escargot
123 Kitchen supplies

DOWN
1 House of Henry VIII
2 "Speed Racer" genre
3 Helps the cause
4 Made off with
5 Negotiating asset
6 Clanton gang leader
7 __ ring: encryption toy
8 One way to work
9 Grow dark
10 USAF VIP
11 Org. with an oft-quoted journal
12 Marsh bird
13 Bright at night
14 Sharpshooters' aids
15 Sleeping __
16 Far from polite
17 Doesn't waste
18 Muppet with a unibrow
24 Eye part
26 Vientiane native
29 Set a high goal
33 Logician's word
34 Buffoon
35 Fuller's geodesic creation
37 MLB Expo, since 2005
39 Counts' equals
41 __ spray
42 Toastmaster's opening
43 Dermatologist's concern
44 "Amores" poet
45 Operatic icon
46 Abba of Israel
47 Difficult
48 Ritzy spread
49 Either "Fargo" director
53 Elbowed
54 Urban sunbather's spot
55 Derive
57 Orders to go
58 Potpourri quality
61 Bud protector
62 Home of the Ninja Turtles
64 No longer in bed
65 Thrifty
67 St. Peter's Square figure
69 Climactic film scene
70 Bright Orion star
71 Pressed through a sieve
72 Celeb with a TV "Garage"
74 Pitcher's gem, in baseball lingo
75 Brand associated with NASA missions
76 Crack up
77 Casino disk
80 Lower in status
83 Catches on to
84 Slough off
85 Stick around
86 Torah holder
87 Roy G. Biv hue
89 Saint-Saëns work with a memorable cello solo
90 Big-box stores, e.g.
92 Yawning, say
93 Coarse woolens
96 Part of BYOB
98 Brewers' ovens
99 Playwright Chekhov
101 Tunesmiths' org.
102 Hayek's "Frida" role
103 "Silas Marner" author
104 Monopoly fees
105 1/2 fl. oz.
106 Level-headed
107 Half hitch, e.g.
109 Dot on a radar screen
110 "Riverdance" dance
112 Hogwash
113 Dethroner of Foreman
115 Lilly of pharmaceuticals



4/12/20 xwordeditor@aol.com ©2020 Tribune Content Agency, LLC.

HOROSCOPE

By EUGENIA LAST

SATURDAY, APRIL 11

Change begins with you. Think about what you enjoy doing most and make a beeline in that direction. Get in touch with former coworkers or experts who can push you in the right direction. A commitment will turn your life around.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Don't get angry when you can get moving. You can accomplish plenty if you dig in and do your best. A financial gain, investment or personal contract is favored, and romance is encouraged.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Don't change your plans because of demands that someone puts on you. Make your time constraint clear, so you don't miss out on something you want to do.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Don't give someone the wrong impression because you are afraid. Lay your cards on the table and do what's right and best for you. Romance is in the stars.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Help others, and you'll be helping yourself as well. You'll be offered rewards for your effort. If you are direct when making decisions, you will get to do things your way.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Energetic activities will get you in a competitive mood. Venture into unfamiliar territory to get a bird's-eye view of something that will help you avoid a mishap.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Avoid emotional situations. If you put your organizational abilities to work, you will come up with ideas that will keep everyone too busy to feud.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Domestic and financial matters will limit you. Avoid taking on too much, regardless of the demands put to you. Personal growth and improvement are favored.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) You'll be faced with opposition if you use force. Interference will be a waste of time that could be better spent exploring endeavors that can help you prosper. Choose self-improvement over changing others.

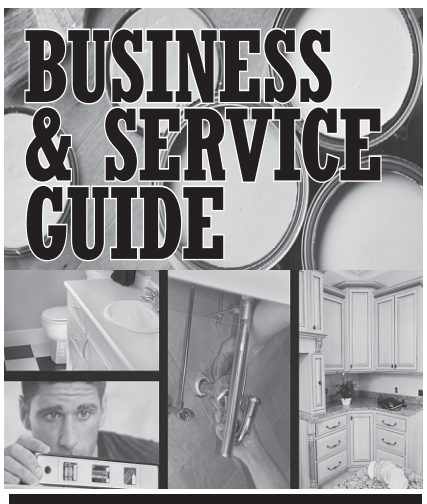
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Personal and home improvements will lift your spirits. Emotional manipulation is apparent. Use charm to ward off interference. A romantic gesture will change the dynamics of a meaningful relationship.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Personal situations will escalate if you try to make unwanted changes or plans. Get the go-ahead before you decide to make a commitment that someone close to you may oppose.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Take physical action and get your to-do list out of the way. The busier you are, the less time you'll have to get into an argument with someone who does things differently.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Say little and do a lot. Lend a helping hand and do your best to sidestep an emotional situation that requires time and space, not words. A kind gesture is your best alternative.

Buy It. Sell It. Find It. CLASSIFIED.



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Answer To Today's Puzzle

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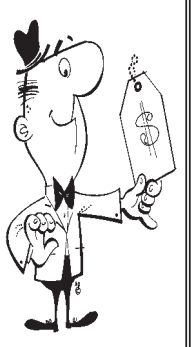
4/12/20

FIND A BARGAIN



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HOROSCOPE

By EUGENIA LAST

SUNDAY, APRIL 12

Take the high road when faced with someone who doesn't play fair. Karma is a beautiful thing when you are positive and do your best to help others. Your genuine gratitude for what you have and your courage to maintain peace, justice and solidarity will be impressive as well as rewarded.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Speak up and say what's on your mind. Getting together with someone from your past will be eye-opening. Romance and commitment are favored, and personal gain is within reach.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Self-improvement programs that exercise the mind, body and soul will be rejuvenating. Less time spent trying to fix others and more time spent on personal gains are favored.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Change your environment. Surround yourself with people who lift you up, not bring you down. Visit a tranquil place that encourages good health. Romance is favored.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Joint ventures will be high-maintenance and costly. Do your due diligence before you get into a legal arrangement that could limit your financial freedom. Don't make a snap decision.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Don't feel pressured to make a move. Charm will have a better impact on a situation than force. Taking a day trip with a loved one will be rewarding.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) A change of scenery will help put a personal situation in perspective. Someone you encounter will offer insight into a matter. Don't be afraid to take a different path.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 23) Start a project. Do the work yourself and avoid labor costs. Expect someone close to you to complain or overreact. Have patience and understanding, and use your charm to gain support.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22) Not everyone you encounter will share your vision. If you make a couple of adjustments to appease people who aren't as astute as you, it will ameliorate things.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 21) Make adjustments at home that will encourage you to spend more time there. A romantic plan will bring you closer to a loved one. Don't let an outsider interfere in your personal life.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Be frank about what you are willing to do or contribute. If you give someone the wrong impression, you may end up having to honor your words.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 19) Invest more time in yourself. Clear a space at home to make room for a project you want to pursue. Romance is on the rise. Make innovative plans with a loved one.

PISCES (Feb. 20-March 20) Don't get involved in an emotional confrontation. Stick to the truth and question any allegation that sounds suspicious. Keep your finances, medical records and personal information secret.

STRESSED OUT AT YOUR CURRENT JOB?

FIND A NEW JOB HERE IN THE CLASSIFIEDS!

NEWSPAPERS HAVE YOUR BACK.

We are grateful for those who have our back in this important time. The list is long, but we want to thank our first responders and front-line workers.

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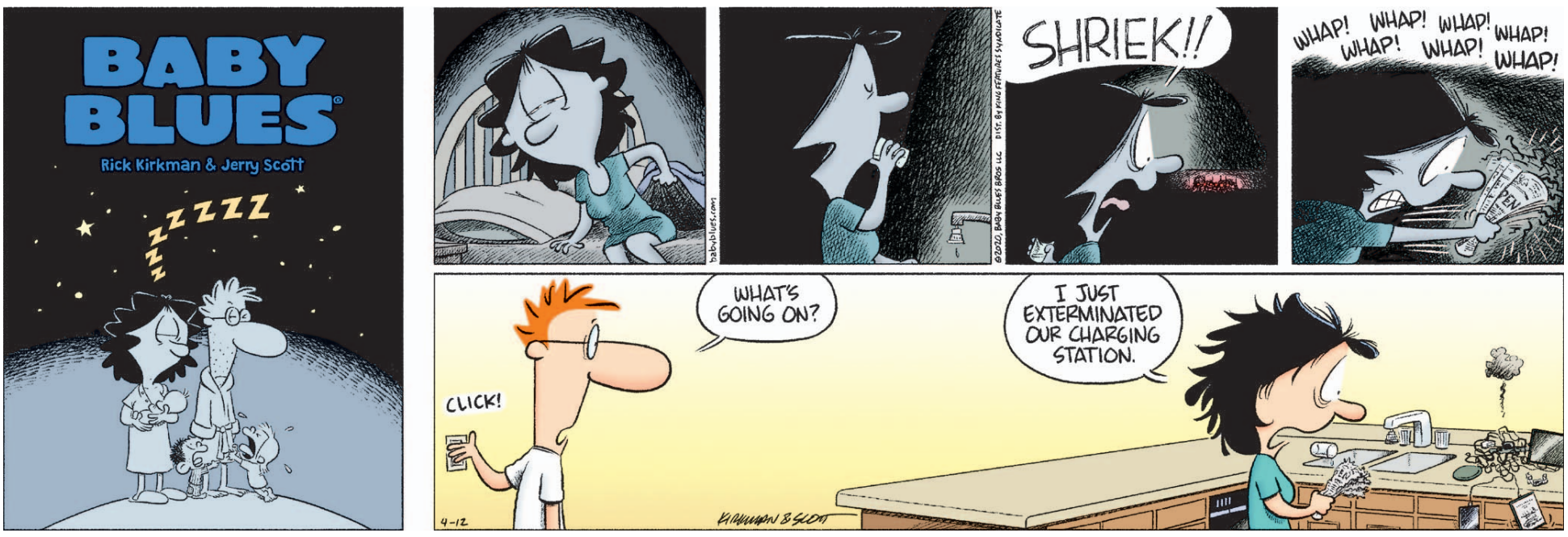
Weekend Comics

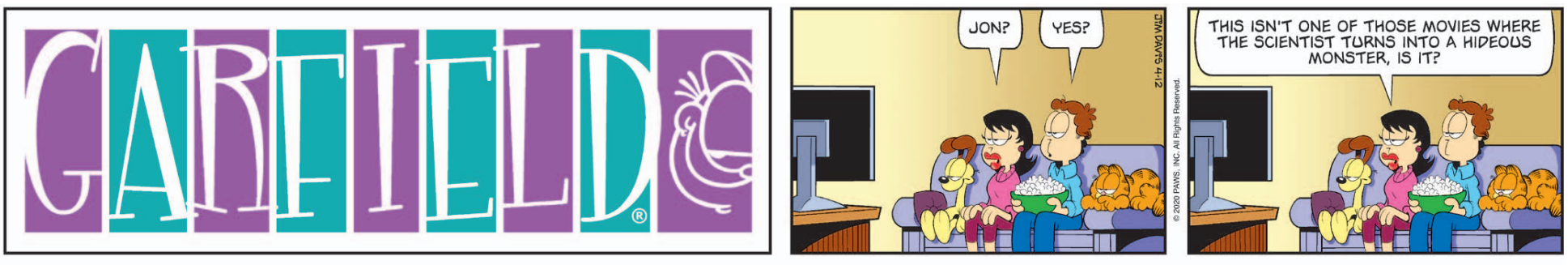
APRIL 11-12, 2020

BABY BLUES

Rick Kirkman & Jerry Scott



GARFIELD


JON?
YES?
JIM DAVIS 4-12
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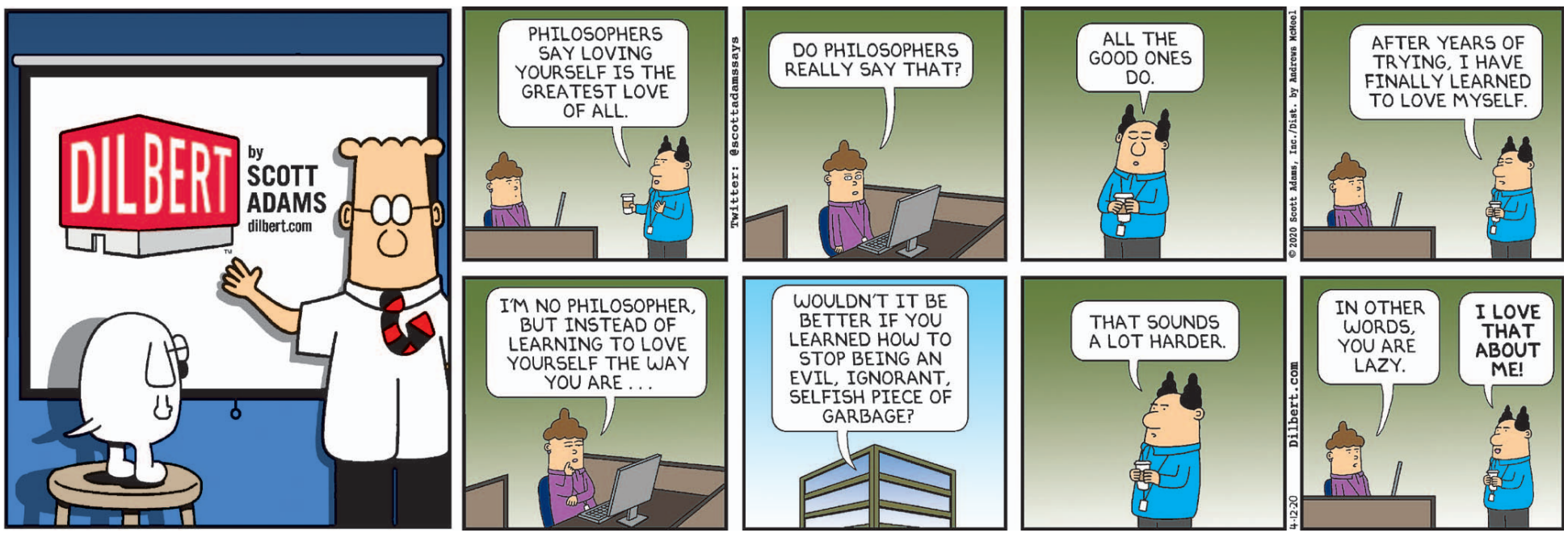
THIS ISN'T ONE OF THOSE MOVIES WHERE THE SCIENTIST TURNS INTO A HIDEOUS MONSTER, IS IT?
NO, OF COURSE NOT, LIZ! THIS IS A STORY OF TRUE LOVE...
BETWEEN A BEAUTIFUL AND DEDICATED YOUNG LAB ASSISTANT AND HER FIANCÉ...
RAAAHHHH
Distributed by Andrews McMeel Syndication
A GIANT SILVERFISH
SHE'S GONNA NEED A BIGGER SLIPPER

DILBERT

by SCOTT ADAMS

dilbert.com


PHILOSOPHERS SAY LOVING YOURSELF IS THE GREATEST LOVE OF ALL.
DO PHILOSOPHERS REALLY SAY THAT?
ALL THE GOOD ONES DO.
AFTER YEARS OF TRYING, I HAVE FINALLY LEARNED TO LOVE MYSELF.
Twitter: @scottadamssays
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I'M NO PHILOSOPHER, BUT INSTEAD OF LEARNING TO LOVE YOURSELF THE WAY YOU ARE . . .
WOULDN'T IT BE BETTER IF YOU LEARNED HOW TO STOP BEING AN EVIL, IGNORANT, SELFISH PIECE OF GARBAGE?
THAT SOUNDS A LOT HARDER.
IN OTHER WORDS, YOU ARE LAZY.
I LOVE THAT ABOUT ME!
Dilbert.com
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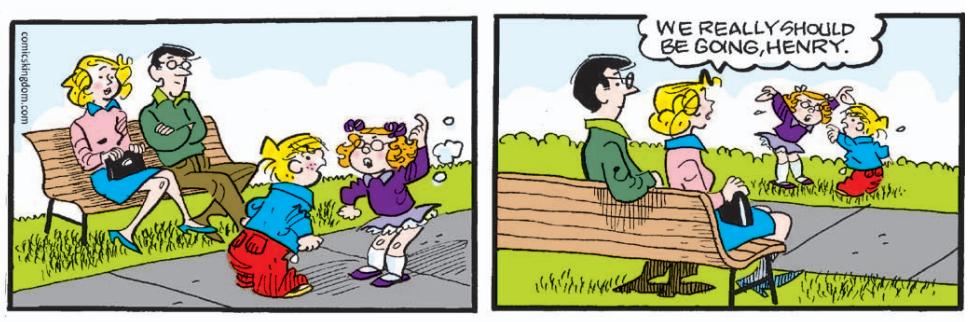
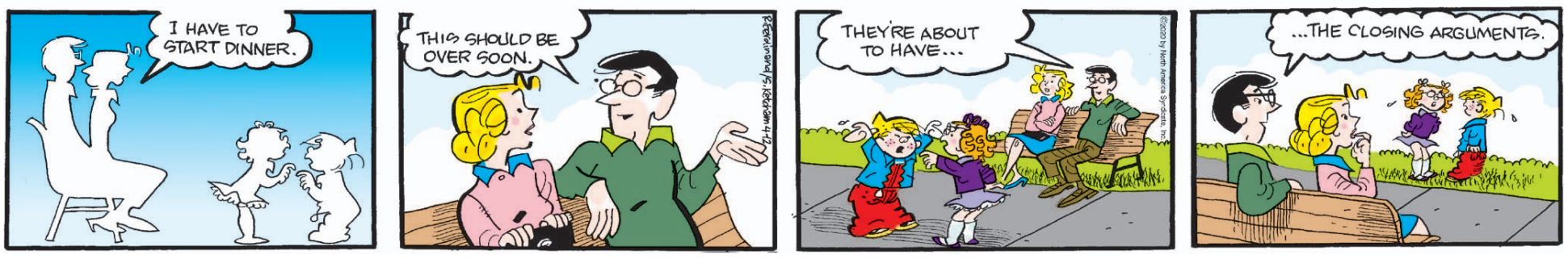
DENNIS THE MENACE

Hank Ketcham's

CLASH ACT




I HAVE TO START DINNER.
THIS SHOULD BE OVER SOON.
THEY'RE ABOUT TO HAVE...
...THE CLOSING ARGUMENTS.
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CURTIS

by RAY BILLINGSLEY

LOOK, I FOUND AN EGG THE EASTER BUNNY HID BEHIND A FLOWERPOT
GREAT, BARRY
THIS CHOCOLATE BUNNY IS HOLLOW!
WHAT A RIP-OFF!!
HEY, I FOUND AN EGG THE EASTER BUNNY HID BY THE HALL CLOSET DOOR
CURTIS, AT THIS SIZE, IF THE CHOCOLATE BUNNY WAS SOLID, IT WOULD BE LIKE BITING INTO A BRICK!
I FOUND AN EGG THE EASTER BUNNY HID IN THE BATHTUB
4-12
YOUR TEETH WOULD BREAK OFF AND FLY 'CROSS THE ROOM!
YOU WOULDN'T LIKE YOUR NEXT SELFIE TO SHOW YOU SMILING WITH A MOUTHFUL OF BROKEN TEETH!
UM, NO, I GUESS I WOULDN'T
I FOUND AN EGG THE EASTER BUNNY HID IN A SOCK!
IN ALL FAIRNESS, THIS APARTMENT IS SMALL, AND THERE'S NOT MANY PLACES TO HIDE EASTER EGGS
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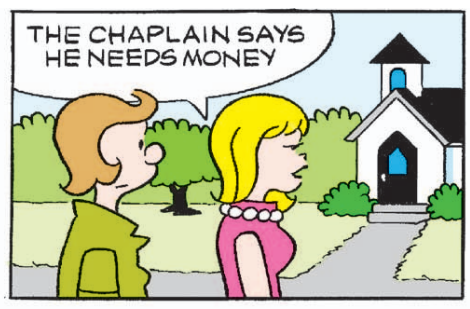
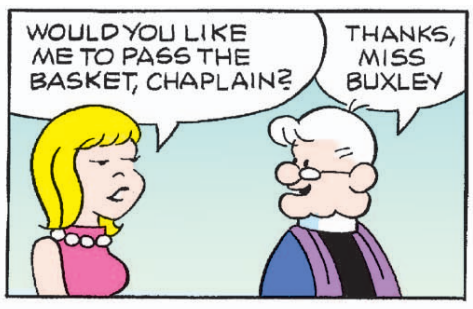
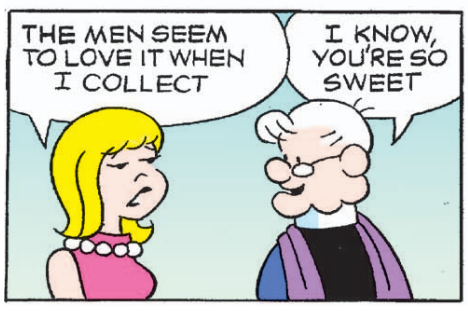
Mort Walker's beetle bailey®

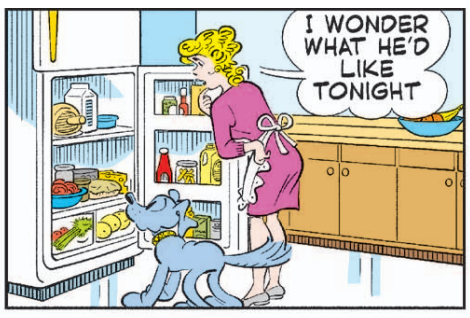


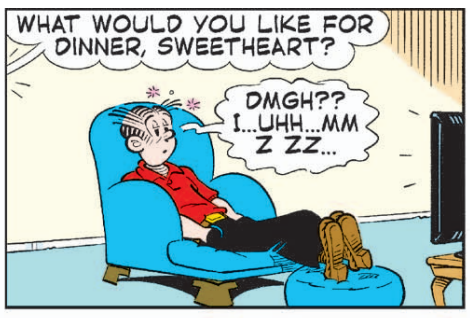


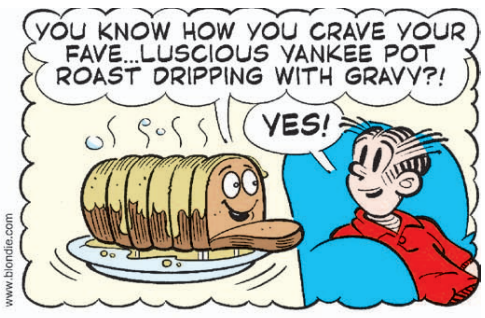


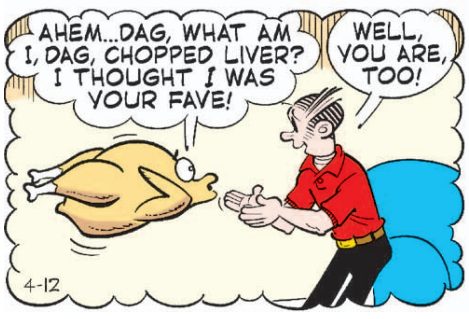
BLONDIE®

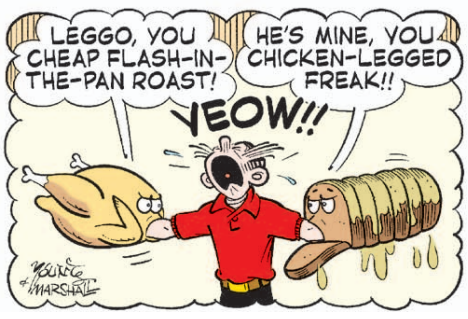
BY DEAN YOUNG & JOHN MARSHALL

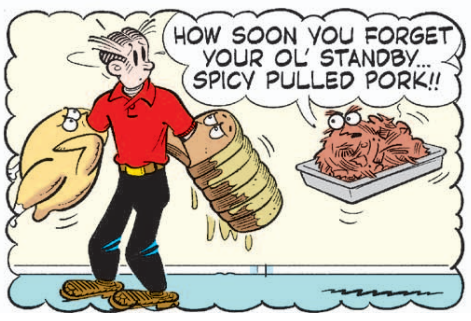


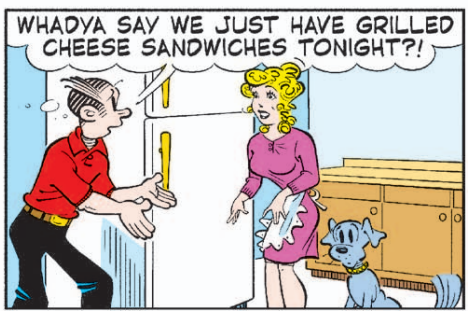






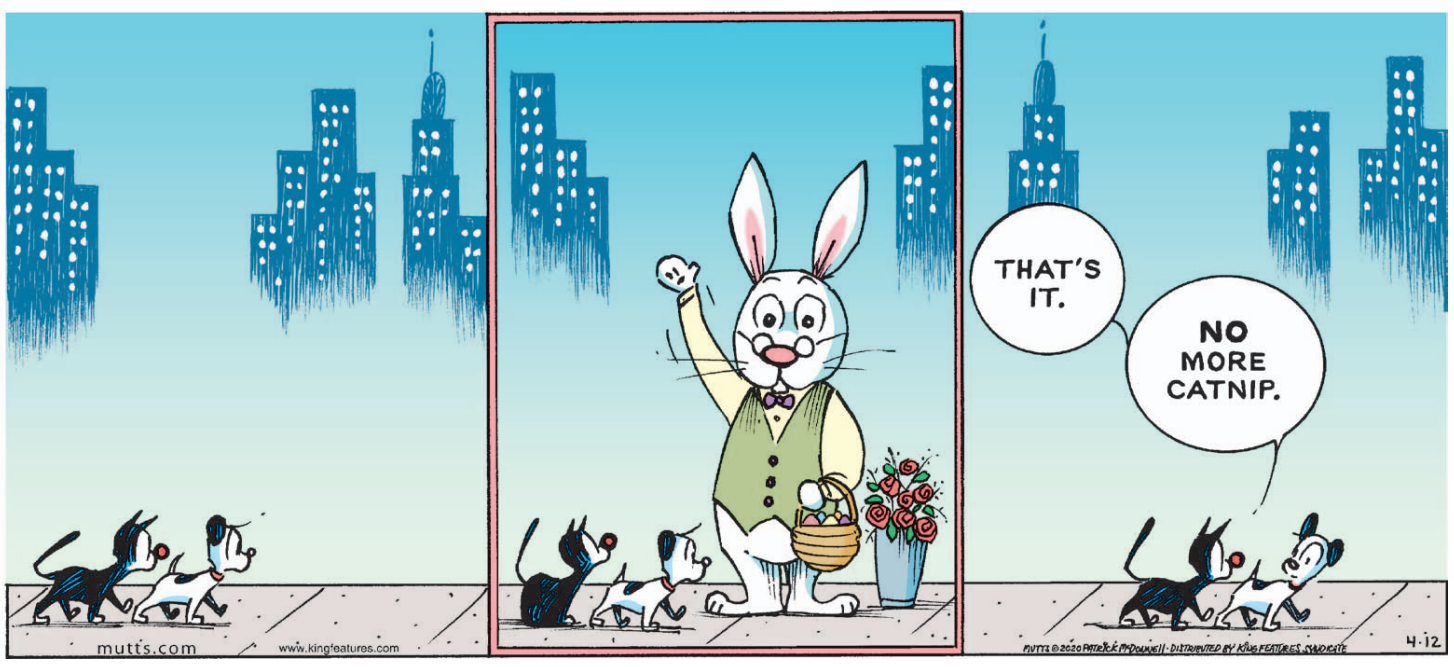






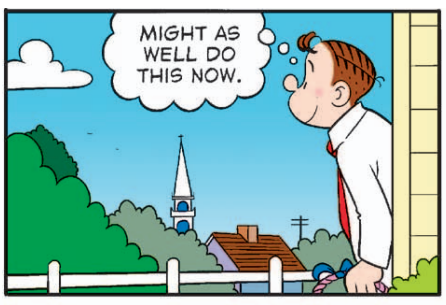
MUTTS

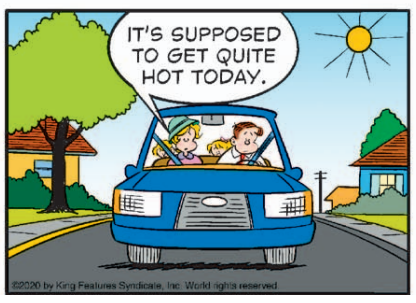
Patrick McDonnell

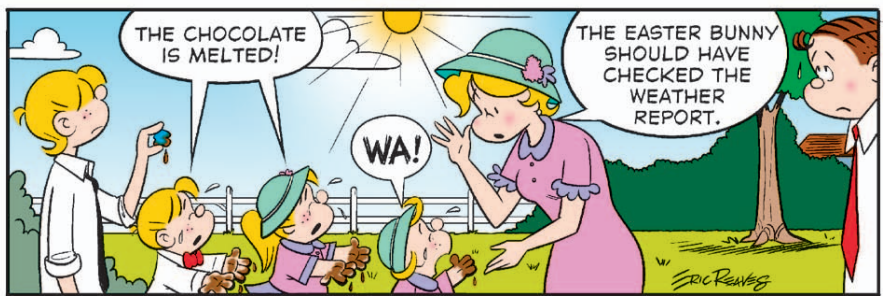


Hi and Lois

by BRIAN and GREG WALKER

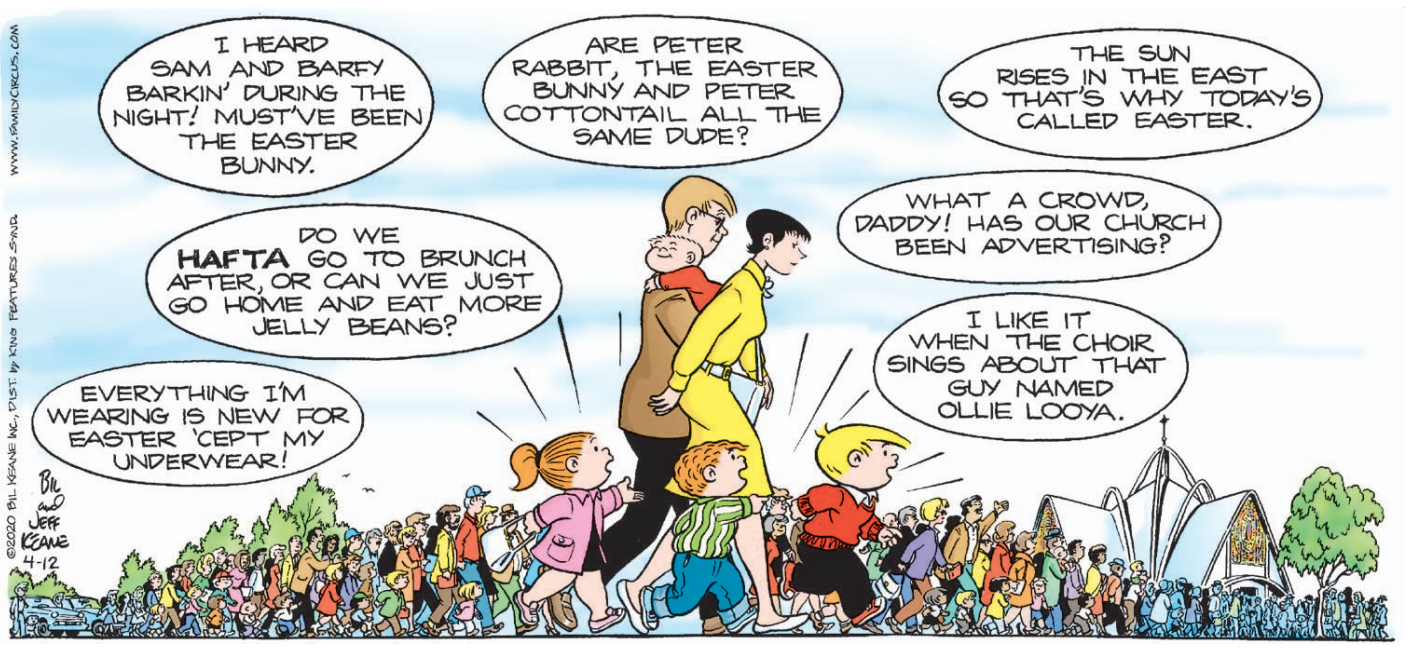






The FAMILY CIRCUS®

By Bil Keane


I HEARD SAM AND BARFY BARKIN' DURING THE NIGHT! MUST'VE BEEN THE EASTER BUNNY.
ARE PETER RABBIT, THE EASTER BUNNY AND PETER COTTONTAIL ALL THE SAME DUDE?
THE SUN RISES IN THE EAST SO THAT'S WHY TODAY'S CALLED EASTER.
DO WE HAFTA GO TO BRUNCH AFTER, OR CAN WE JUST GO HOME AND EAT MORE JELLY BEANS?
WHAT A CROWD, DADDY! HAS OUR CHURCH BEEN ADVERTISING?
EVERYTHING I'M WEARING IS NEW FOR EASTER 'CEPT MY UNDERWEAR!
I LIKE IT WHEN THE CHOIR SINGS ABOUT THAT GUY NAMED OLLIE LOOYA.
WWW.FAMILYCIRCUS.COM
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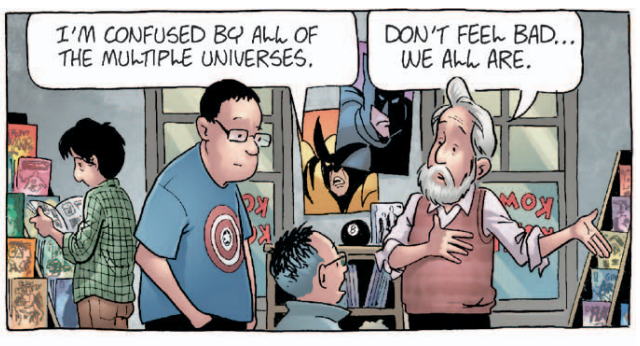
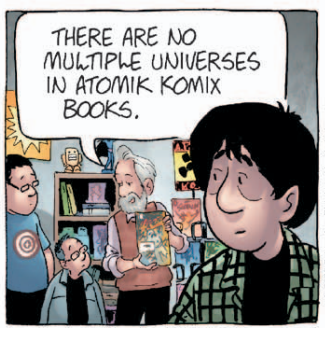
Bil and Jeff Keane
4-12

FUNKY WINKERBEAN

by TOM BATIUK




THERE ARE NO MULTIPLE UNIVERSES IN ATOMIK KOMIX BOOKS.
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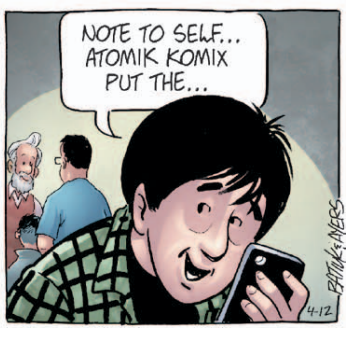
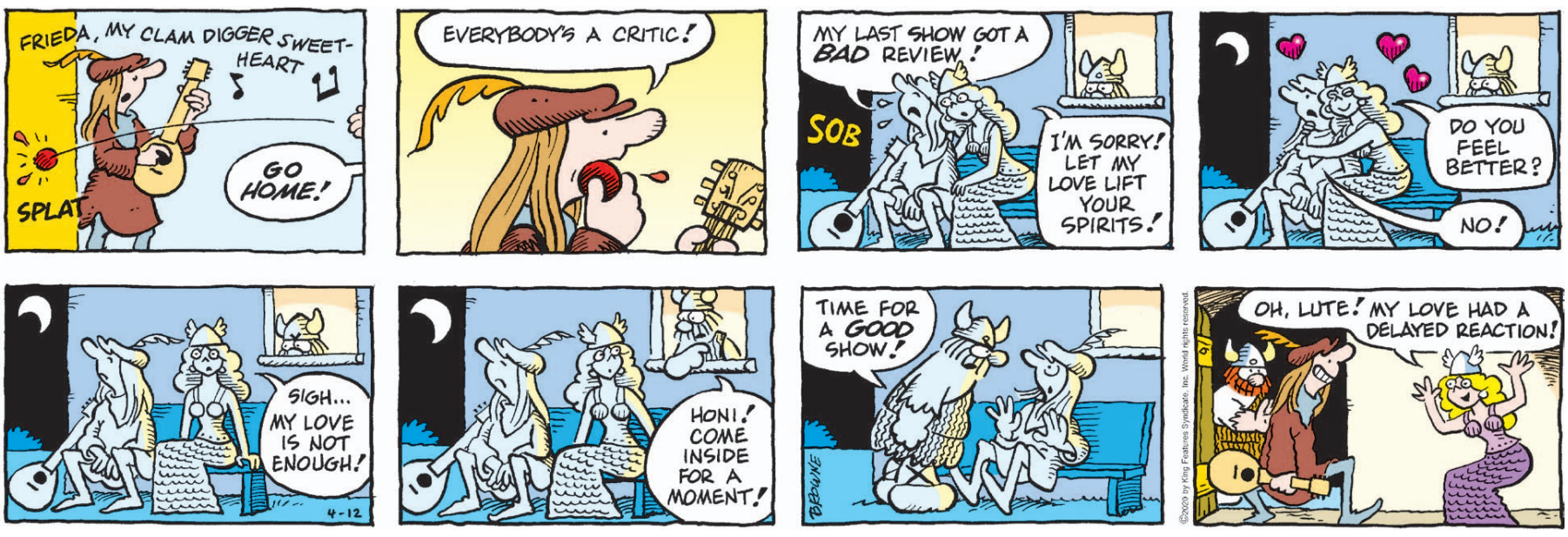


HAGAR the horrible

by DIK BROWNE


FRIEDA, MY CLAM DIGGER SWEETHEART
SPLAT
GO HOME!
EVERYBODY'S A CRITIC!
MY LAST SHOW GOT A BAD REVIEW!
SOB
I'M SORRY! LET MY LOVE LIFT YOUR SPIRITS!
DO YOU FEEL BETTER?
NO!
SIGH... MY LOVE IS NOT ENOUGH!
4-12
HON! COME INSIDE FOR A MOMENT!
TIME FOR A GOOD SHOW!
Brownie
OH, LUTE! MY LOVE HAD A DELAYED REACTION!
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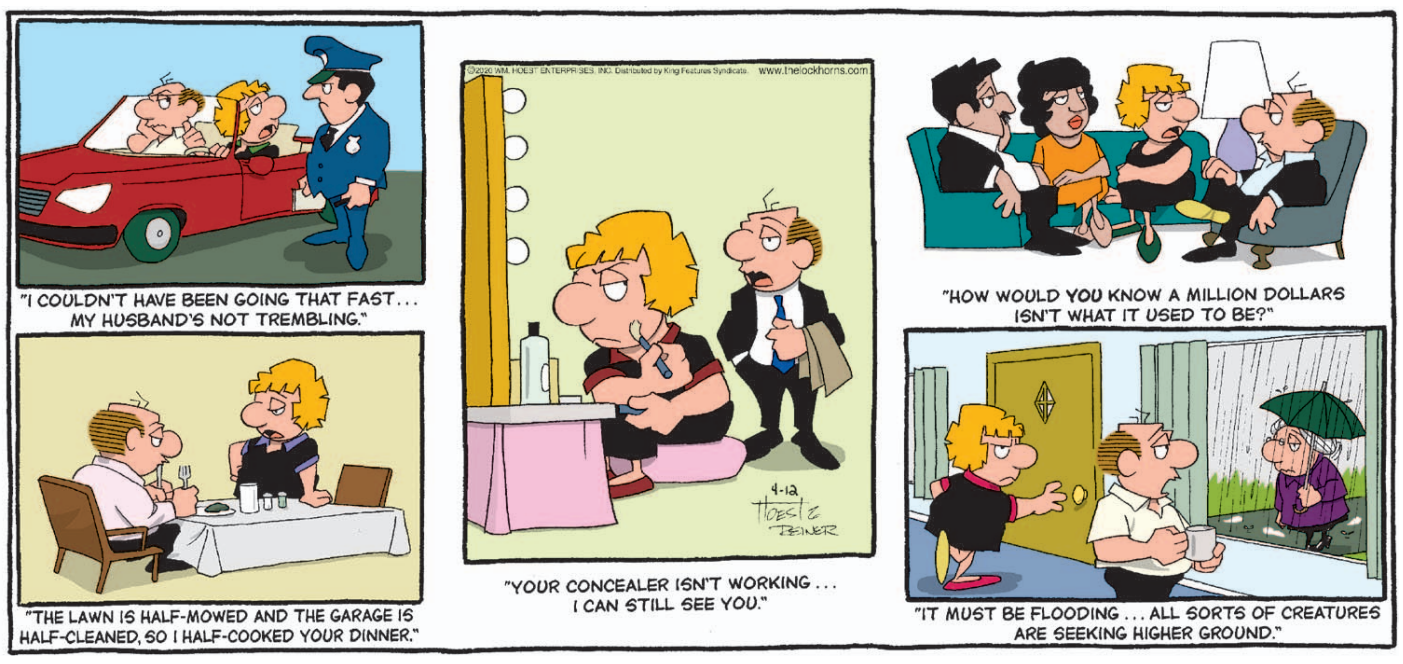
THE LOCKHORNS

BY BUNNY HOEST AND JOHN REINER


"I COULDN'T HAVE BEEN GOING THAT FAST... MY HUSBAND'S NOT TREMBLING."
"THE LAWN IS HALF-MOWED AND THE GARAGE IS HALF-CLEANED, SO I HALF-COOKED YOUR DINNER."
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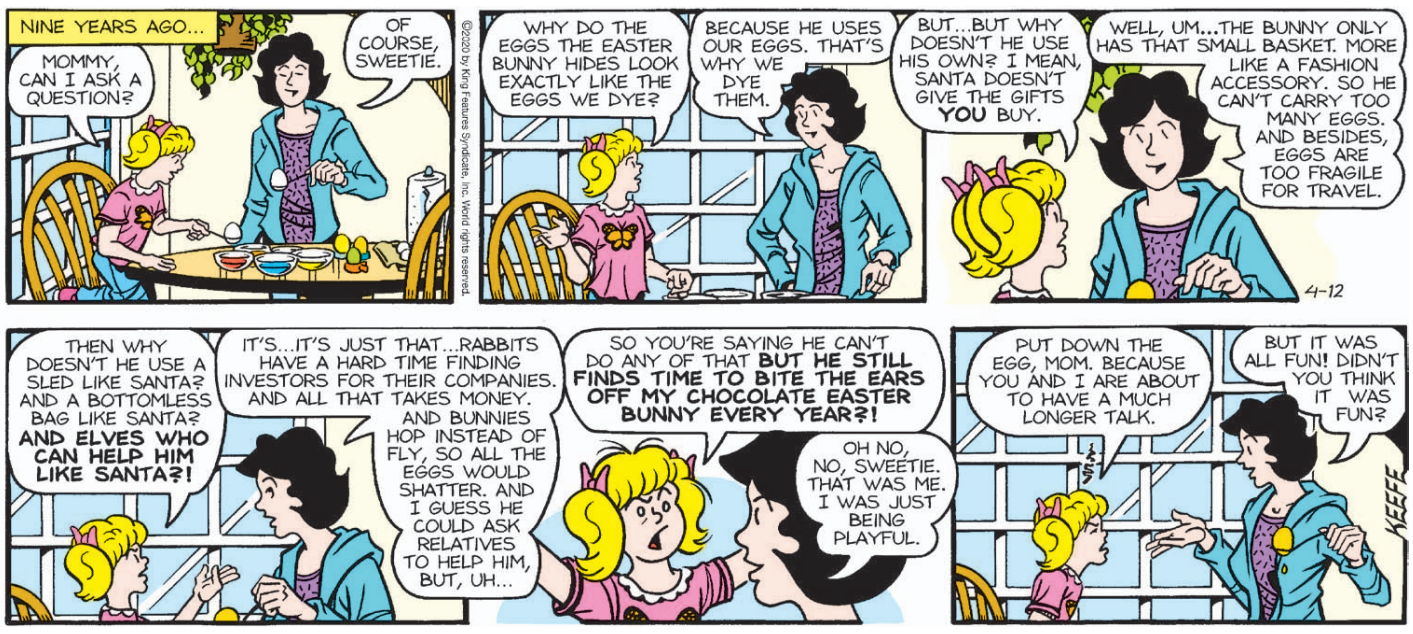
4-12
HOEST & REINER
"YOUR CONCEALER ISN'T WORKING . . . I CAN STILL SEE YOU."
"HOW WOULD YOU KNOW A MILLION DOLLARS ISN'T WHAT IT USED TO BE?"
"IT MUST BE FLOODING . . . ALL SORTS OF CREATURES ARE SEEKING HIGHER GROUND."

SALLY FORTH®

by Francesco Marciuliano


NINE YEARS AGO...
MOMMY, CAN I ASK A QUESTION?
OF COURSE, SWEETIE.
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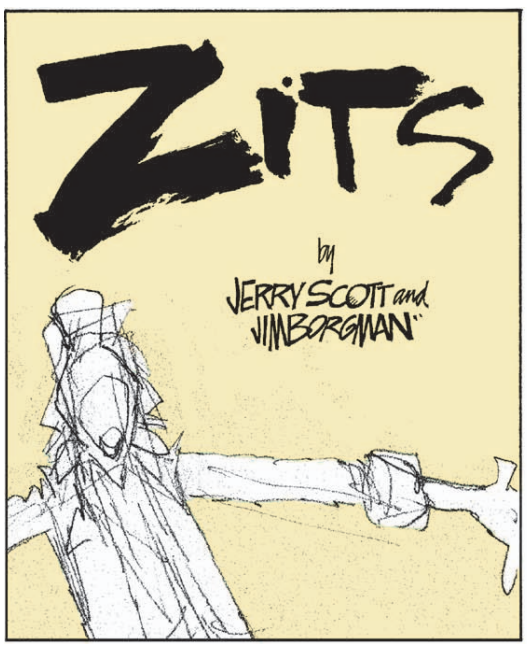
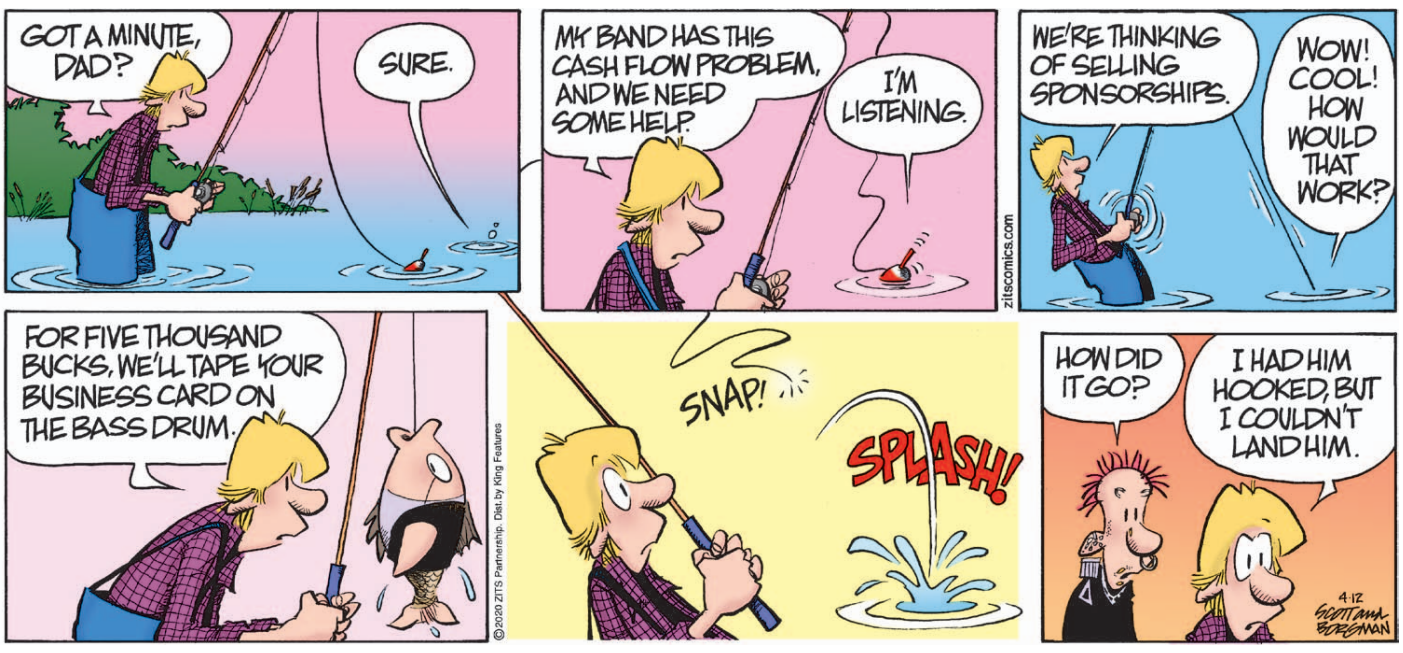
WHY DO THE EGGS THE EASTER BUNNY HIDES LOOK EXACTLY LIKE THE EGGS WE DYE?
BECAUSE HE USES OUR EGGS. THAT'S WHY WE DYE THEM.
BUT...BUT WHY DOESN'T HE USE HIS OWN? I MEAN, SANTA DOESN'T GIVE THE GIFTS YOU BUY.
WELL, UM...THE BUNNY ONLY HAS THAT SMALL BASKET. MORE LIKE A FASHION ACCESSORY. SO HE CAN'T CARRY TOO MANY EGGS. AND BESIDES, EGGS ARE TOO FRAGILE FOR TRAVEL.
4-12
THEN WHY DOESN'T HE USE A SLED LIKE SANTA? AND A BOTTOMLESS BAG LIKE SANTA? AND ELVES WHO CAN HELP HIM LIKE SANTA?!
IT'S...IT'S JUST THAT...RABBITS HAVE A HARD TIME FINDING INVESTORS FOR THEIR COMPANIES. AND ALL THAT TAKES MONEY. AND BUNNIES HOP INSTEAD OF FLY, SO ALL THE EGGS WOULD SHATTER. AND I GUESS HE COULD ASK RELATIVES TO HELP HIM, BUT, UH...
SO YOU'RE SAYING HE CAN'T DO ANY OF THAT BUT HE STILL FINDS TIME TO BITE THE EARS OFF MY CHOCOLATE EASTER BUNNY EVERY YEAR?!
OH NO, NO, SWEETIE. THAT WAS ME. I WAS JUST BEING PLAYFUL.
PUT DOWN THE EGG, MOM. BECAUSE YOU AND I ARE ABOUT TO HAVE A MUCH LONGER TALK.
BUT IT WAS ALL FUN! DIDN'T YOU THINK IT WAS FUN?
KEEFE

ZITS

by JERRY SCOTT and JIM BORGMAN




GOT A MINUTE, DAD?
SURE.
MY BAND HAS THIS CASH FLOW PROBLEM, AND WE NEED SOME HELP.
I'M LISTENING.
WE'RE THINKING OF SELLING SPONSORSHIPS.
WOW! COOL! HOW WOULD THAT WORK?
zitscomics.com
FOR FIVE THOUSAND BUCKS, WE'LL TAPE YOUR BUSINESS CARD ON THE BASS DRUM.
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SNAP!
SPLASH!
HOW DID IT GO?
I HAD HIM HOOKED, BUT I COULDN'T LAND HIM.
4-12
SCOTT and BORGMAN

FORT KNOX™

by Paul Jon

WHY DON'T YOU LIKE EASTER AS MUCH AS I DO, DAD?
EGG-CELLENT
AFTER SPENDING YEARS HIDING ROTTEN EGGS ALL OVER THE HOUSE....
my PEEPS
YOUR GRANDMOTHER CHANGED HER WAYS AND STARTED PELTING ME WITH EGGS.
CAR BURY ME
Join www.facebook.com/fortknoxcomic & visit the Knox family at www.gocomics.com/fortknox
RELAX, JOEY! THAT'S NOT GOING TO HAPPEN THIS YEAR.
Easter FUNNY
4/12
SO YOU'RE NOT GOING TO PELT ME WITH EGGS?
OF COURSE NOT, JOEY.
VERY BUNNY
I PELTED YOUR CAR INSTEAD.
EGG Salad
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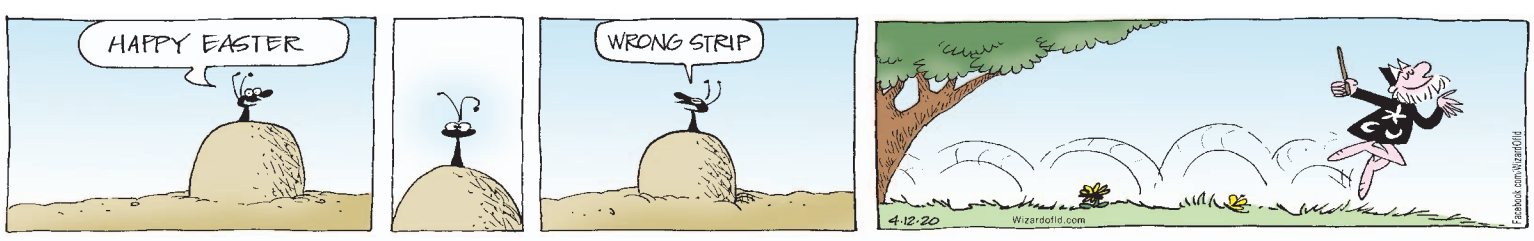
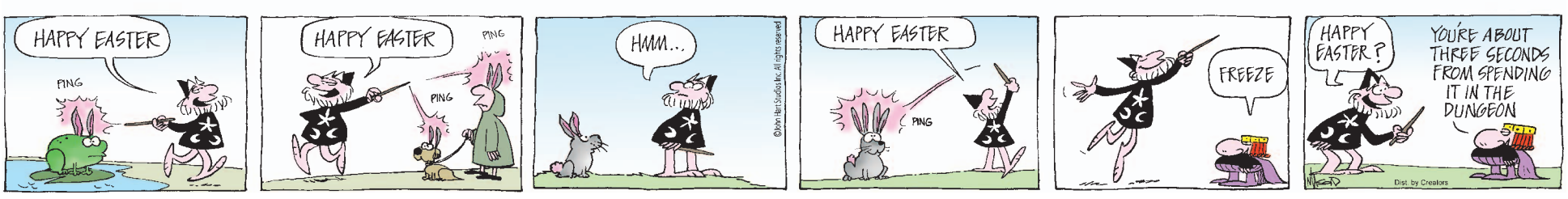
WIZARD OF ID

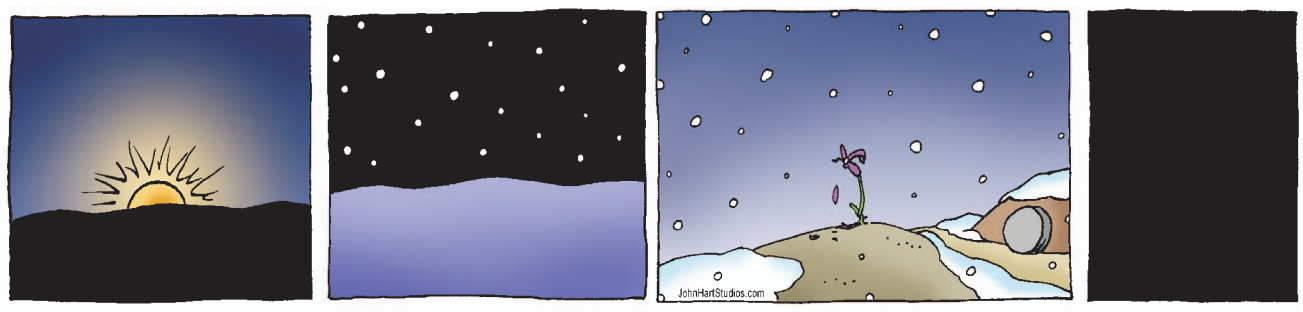
by Hart, Mastroianni and Parker





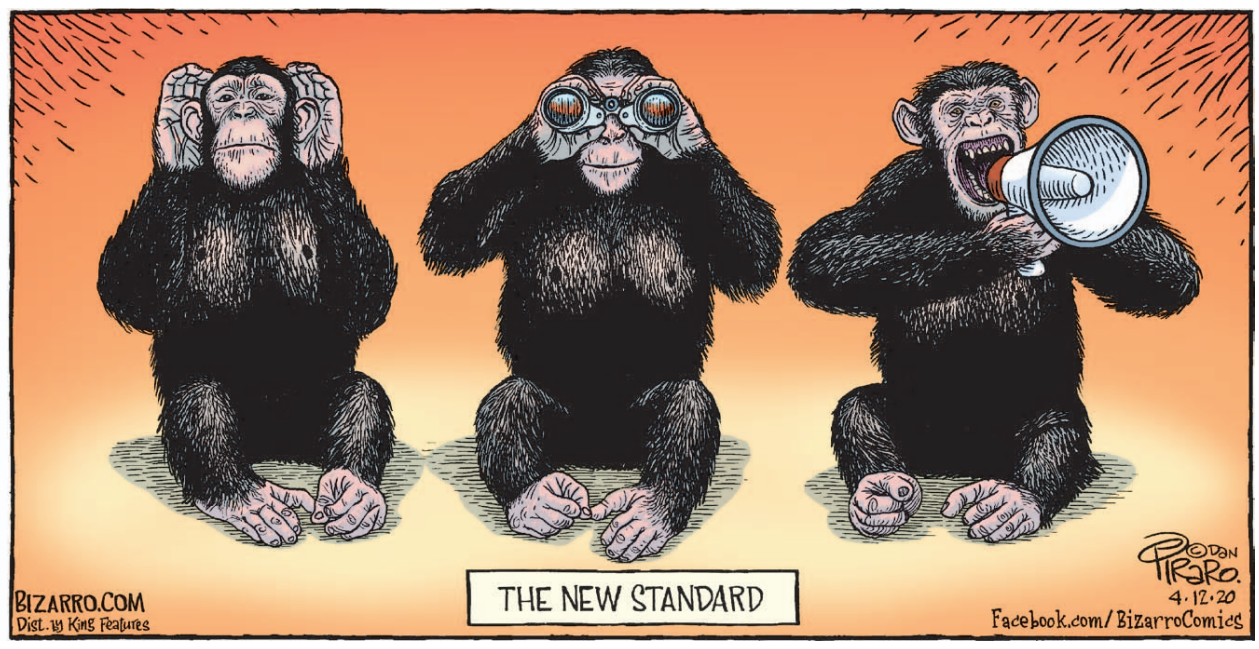
BC

BY MASTROIANNI AND HART



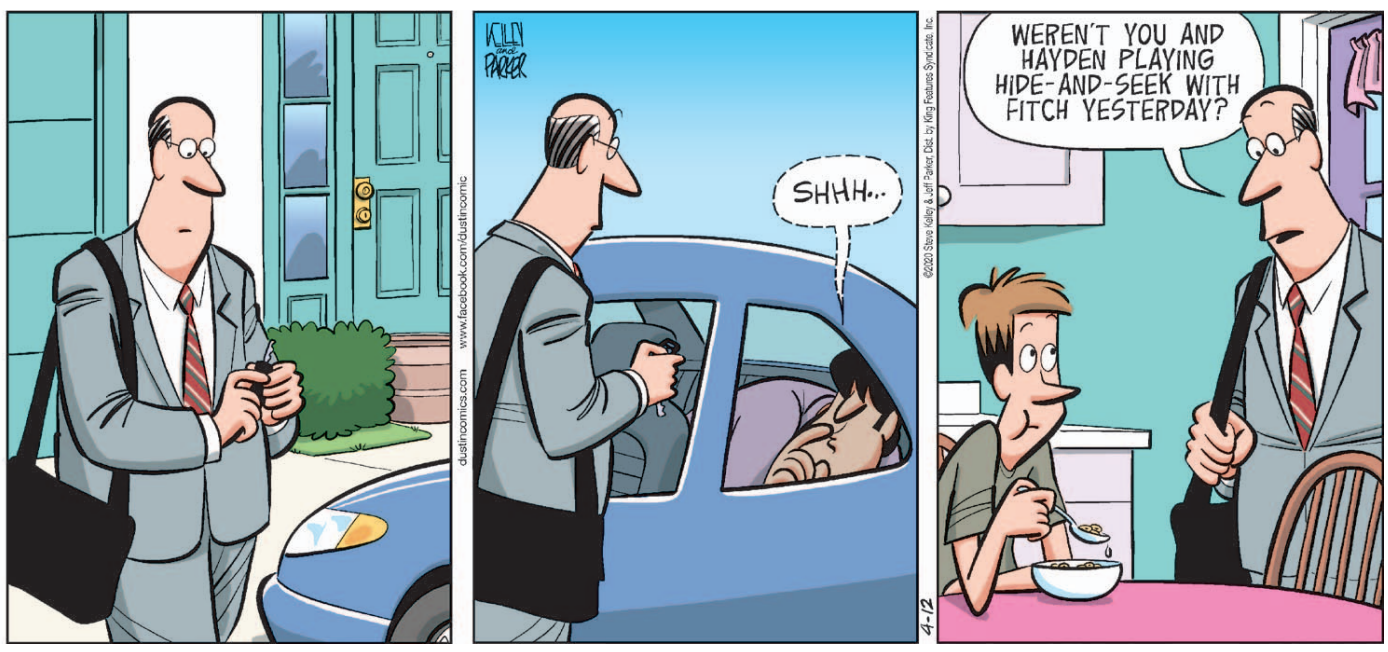
BIZARRO

BY DAN PIRARO



DUSTIN

By STEVE KELLEY and JEFF PARKER


dustinomics.com
www.facebook.com/dustinoomic
KELLY and PARKER
SHHH...
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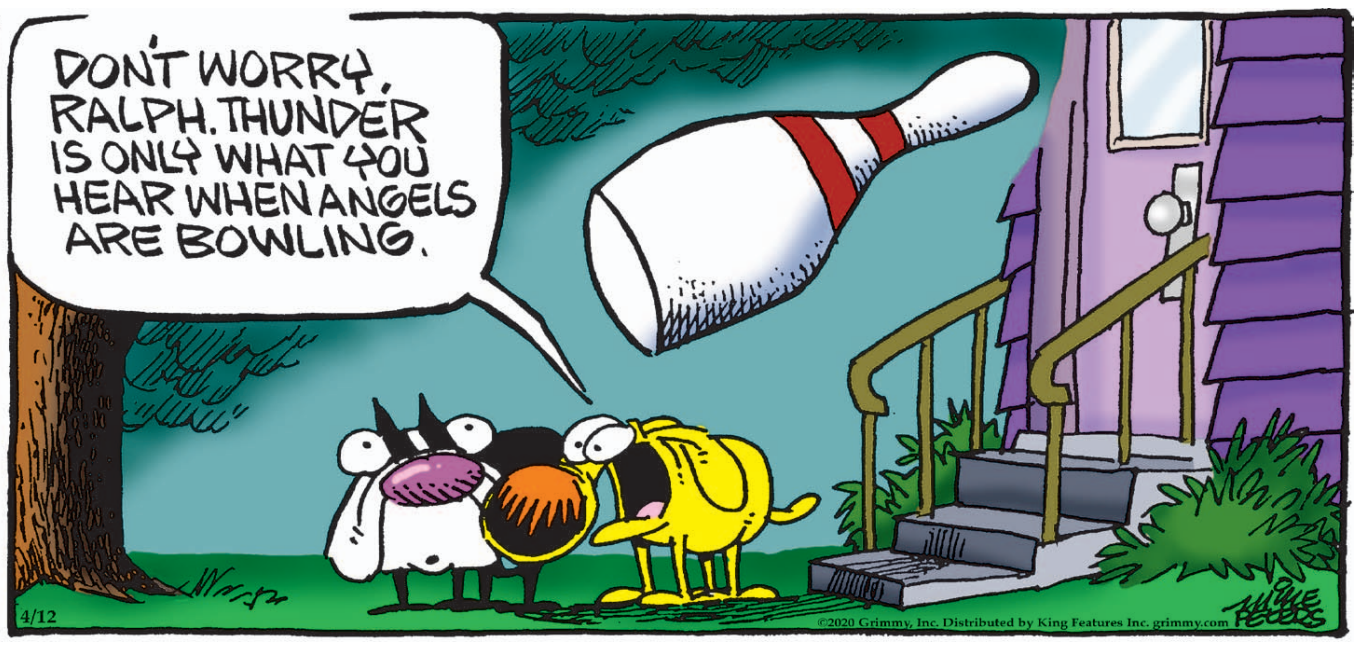
4-12
WEREN'T YOU AND HAYDEN PLAYING HIDE-AND-SEEK WITH FITCH YESTERDAY?

MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM


DON'T WORRY, RALPH. THUNDER IS ONLY WHAT YOU HEAR WHEN ANGELS ARE BOWLING.
4/12
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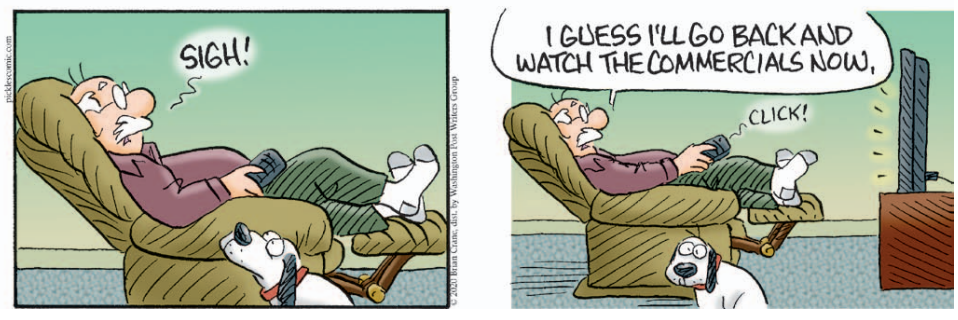
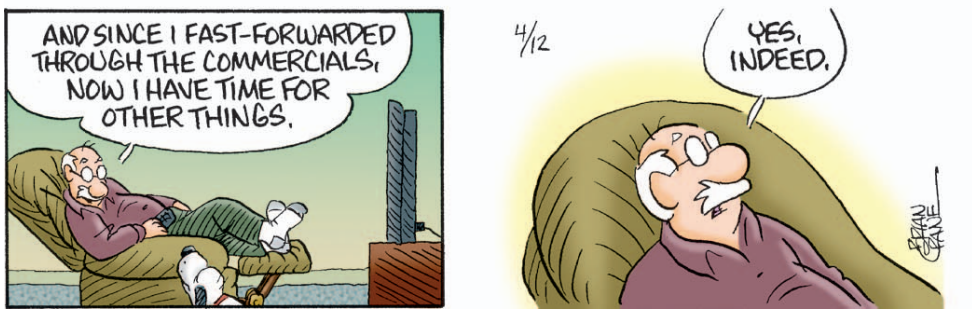
MIKE PETERS

PICKLES

by BRIAN CRANE


I BELIEVE THE DVR IS THE GREATEST INVENTION OF OUR TIME.
I CAN RECORD MY FAVORITE SHOW WHILE I'M ASLEEP OR DOING SOMETHING ELSE AND THEN WATCH IT WHEN I WANT.


AND SINCE I FAST-FORWARDED THROUGH THE COMMERCIALS, NOW I HAVE TIME FOR OTHER THINGS.
4/12
YES, INDEED.
BRIAN CRANE
picklescomic.com
SIGH!
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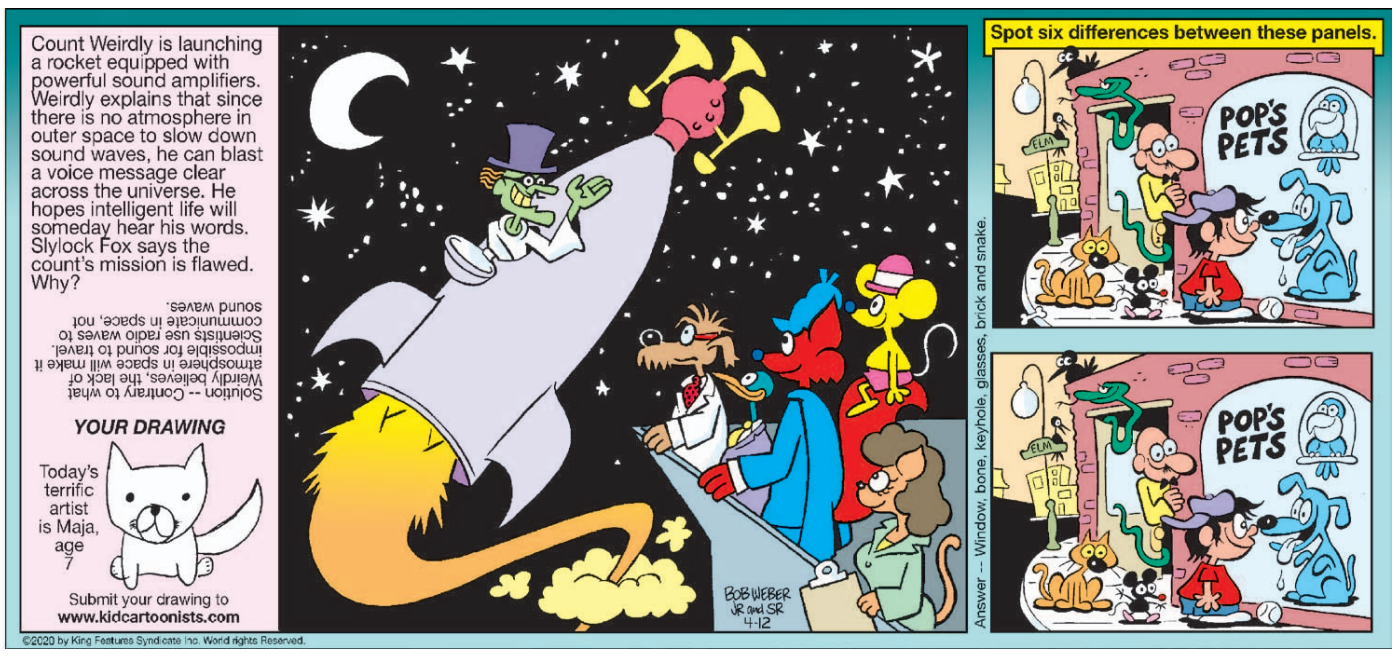
I GUESS I'LL GO BACK AND WATCH THE COMMERCIALS NOW.
CLICK!

SLYLOCK FOX and COMICS FOR KIDS

Bob Weber Jr.'s


Count Weirdly is launching a rocket equipped with powerful sound amplifiers. Weirdly explains that since there is no atmosphere in outer space to slow down sound waves, he can blast a voice message clear across the universe. He hopes intelligent life will someday hear his words. Slylock Fox says the count's mission is flawed. Why?
Solution -- Contrary to what Weirdly believes, the lack of atmosphere in space will make it impossible for sound to travel. Scientists use radio waves to communicate in space, not sound waves.
YOUR DRAWING
Today's terrific artist is Maja, age 7
Submit your drawing to www.kidcartoonists.com
BOB WEBER JR and SR 4-12
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Spot six differences between these panels.
POP'S PETS
ELM
Answer -- Window, bone, keyhole, glasses, brick and snake.